

# FAIRY TAIL

55



Hiro Mashima







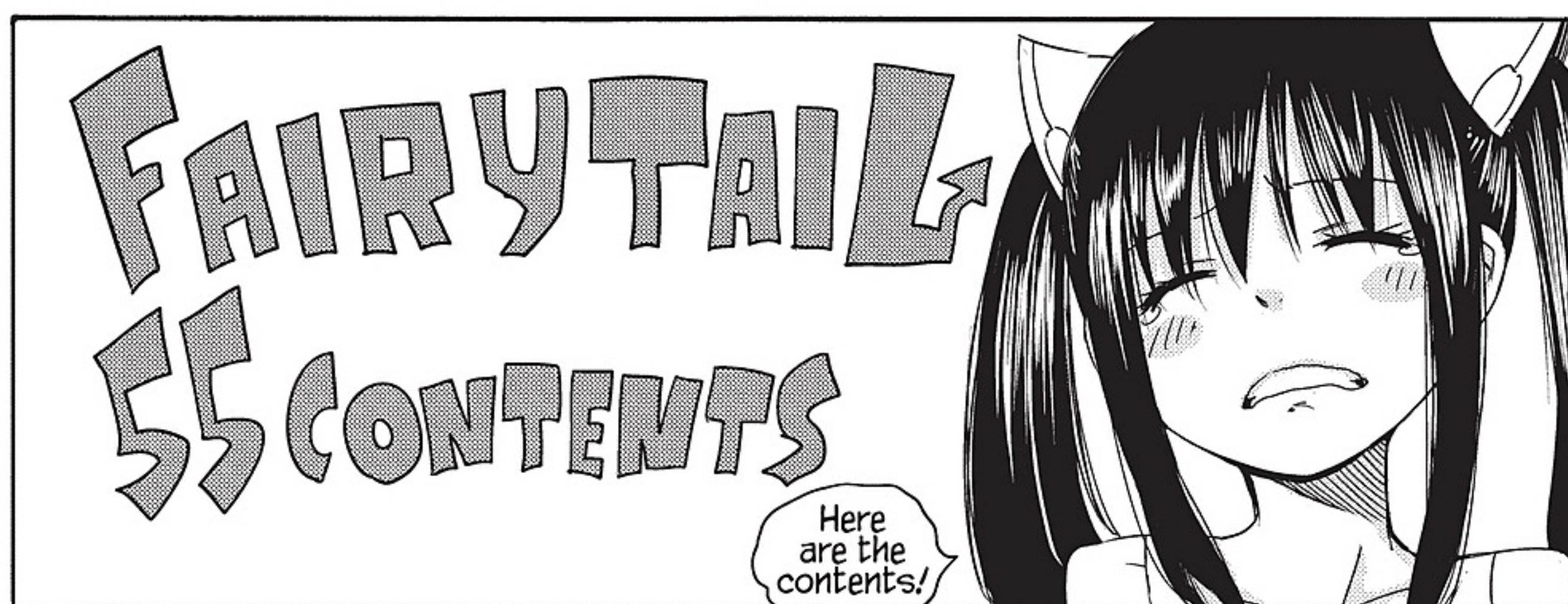
# FAIRY TAIL

55



HIRO MASHIMA





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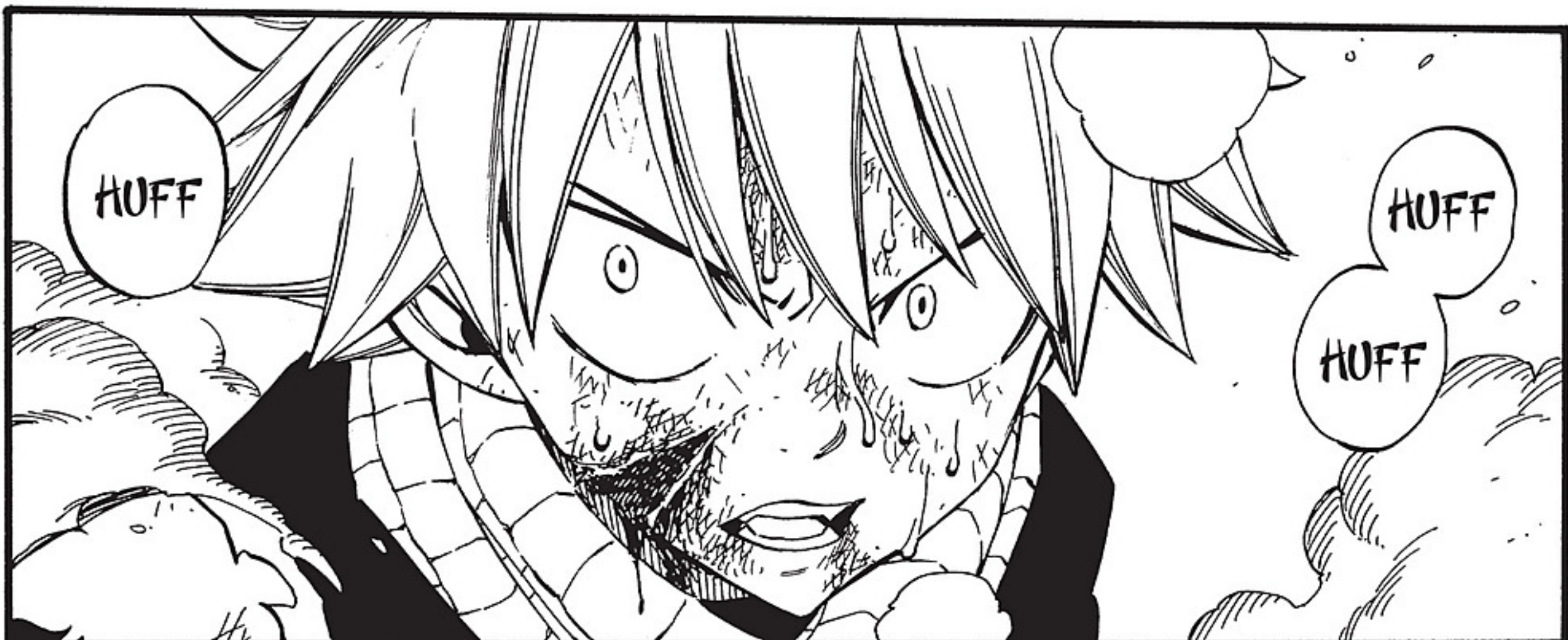
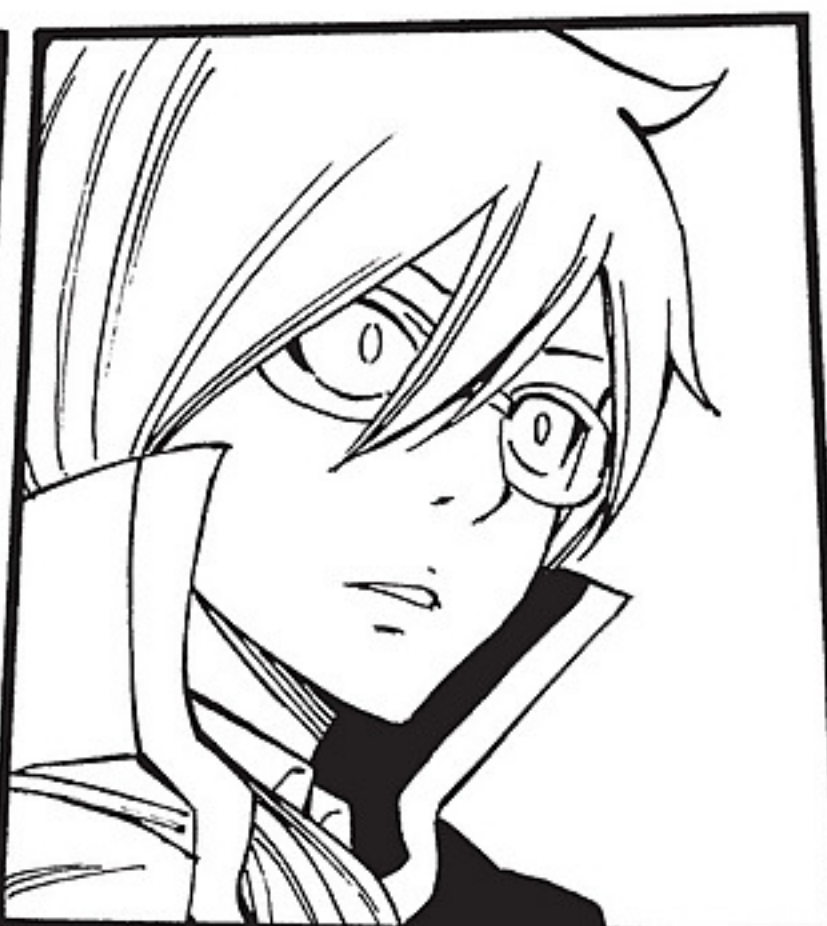
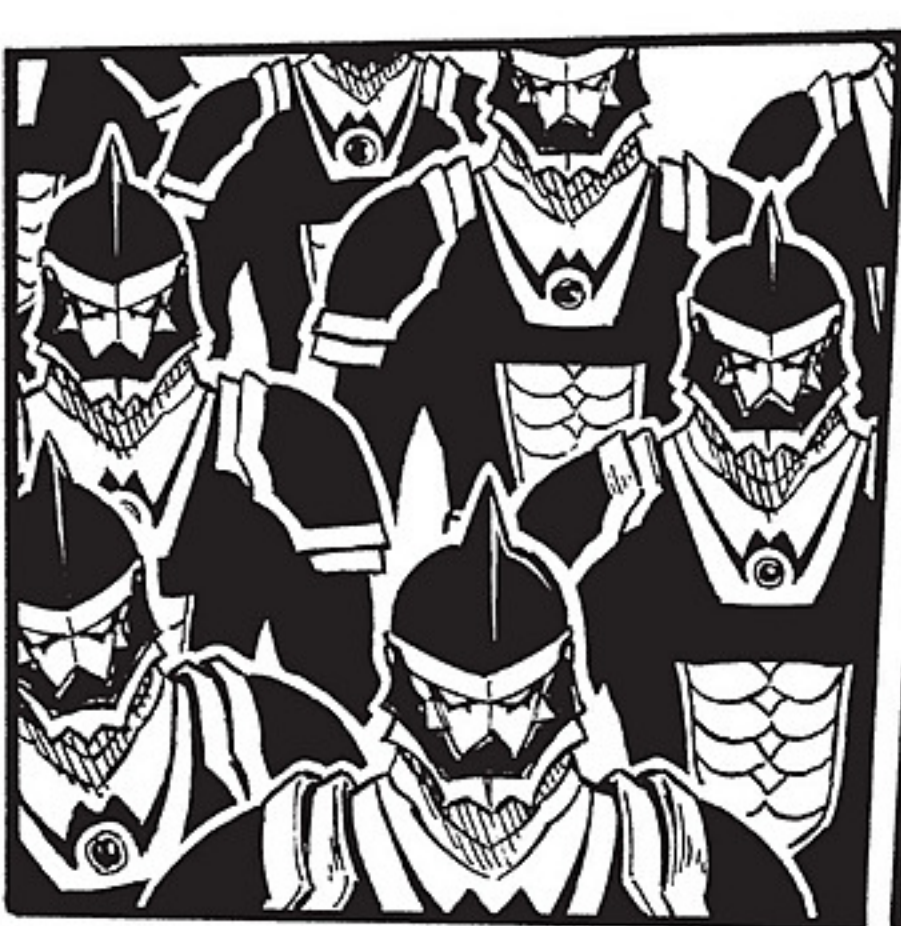
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

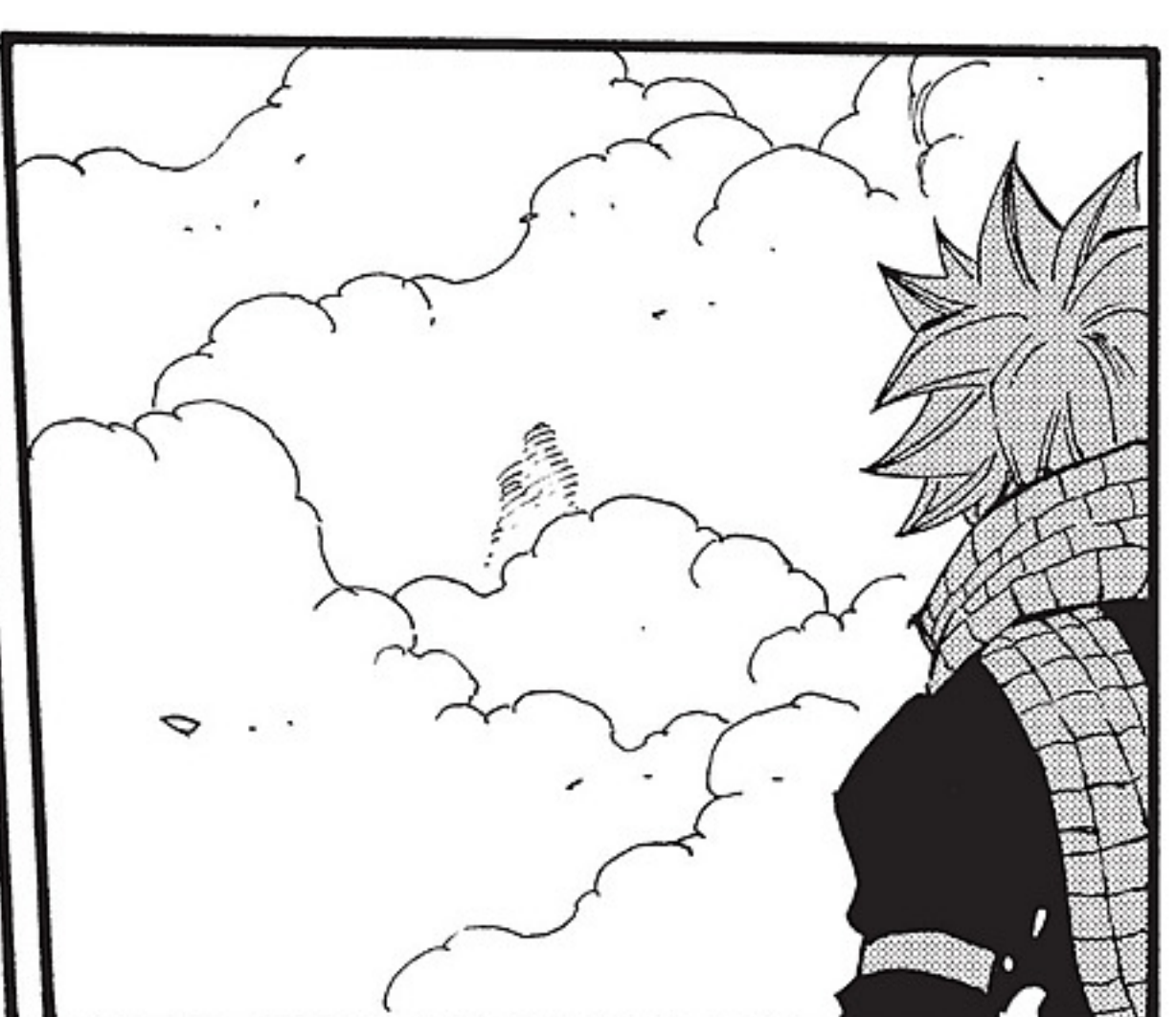
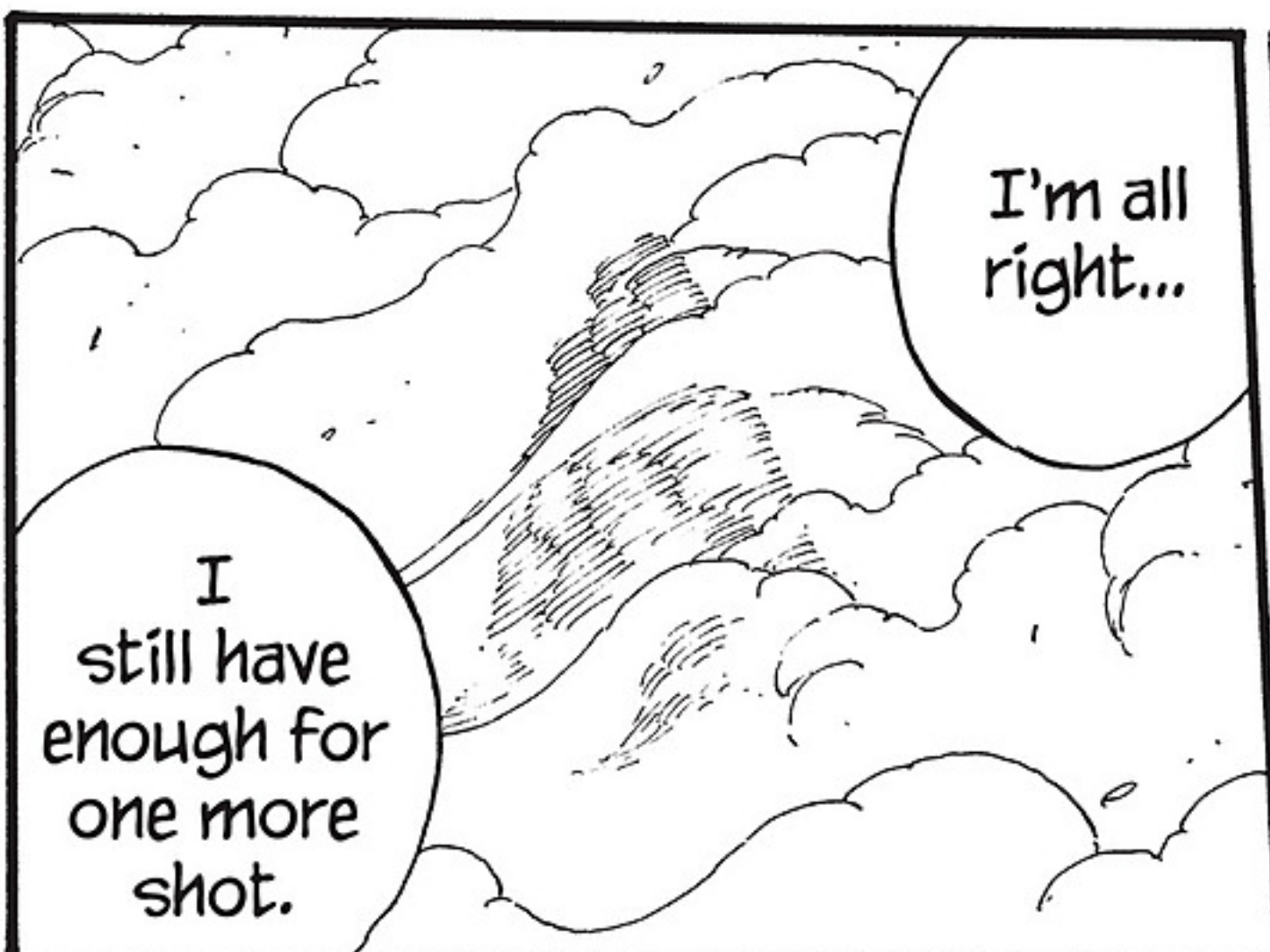
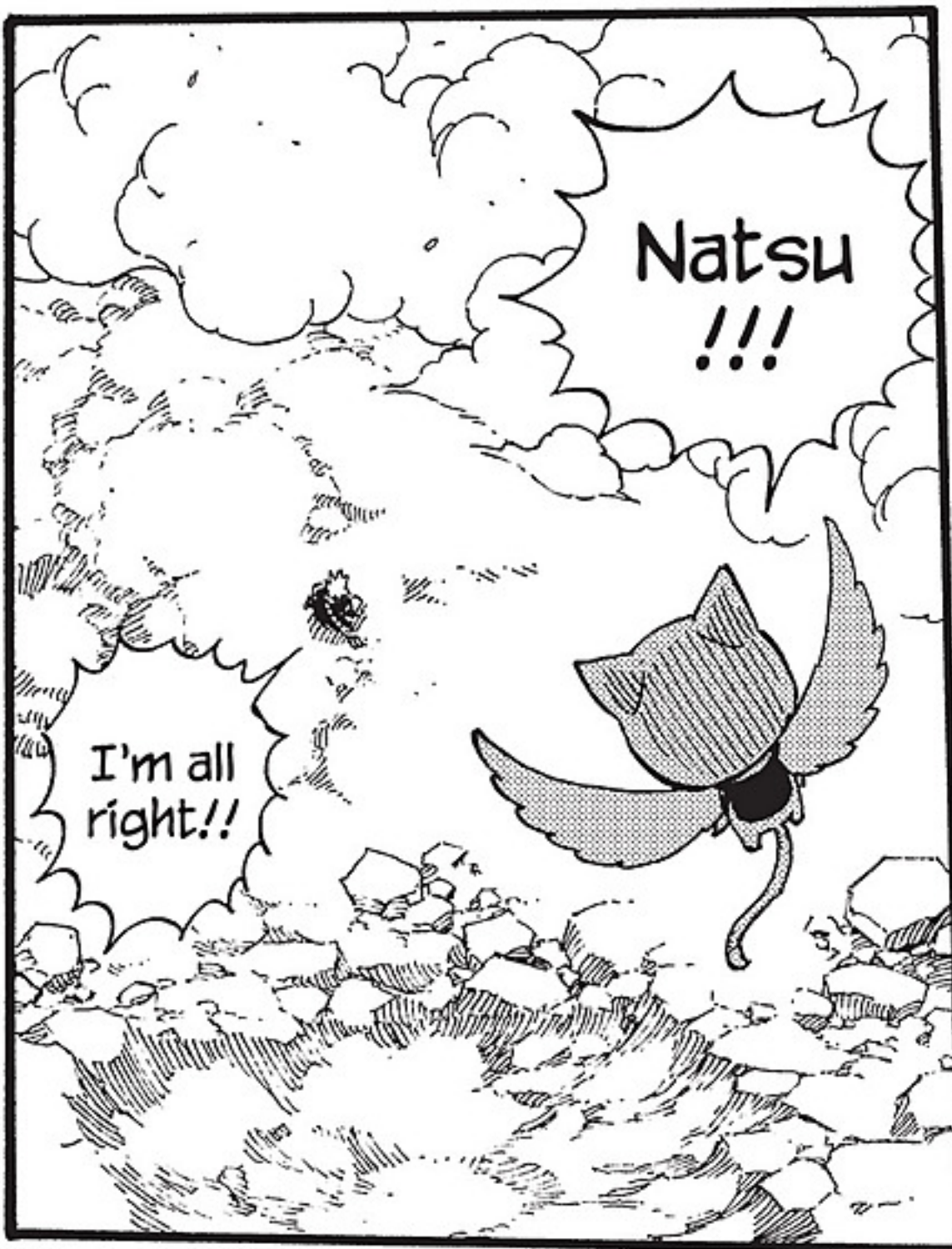
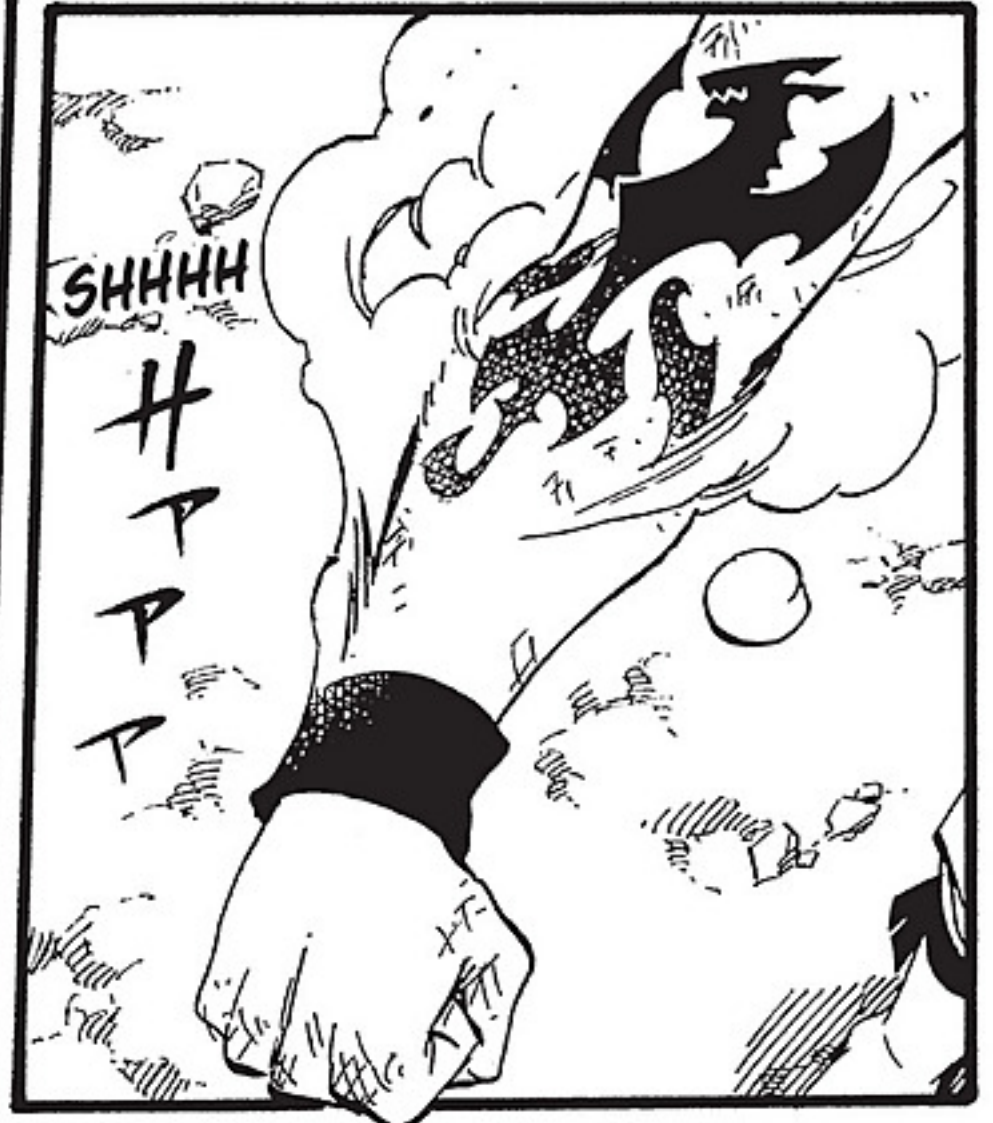
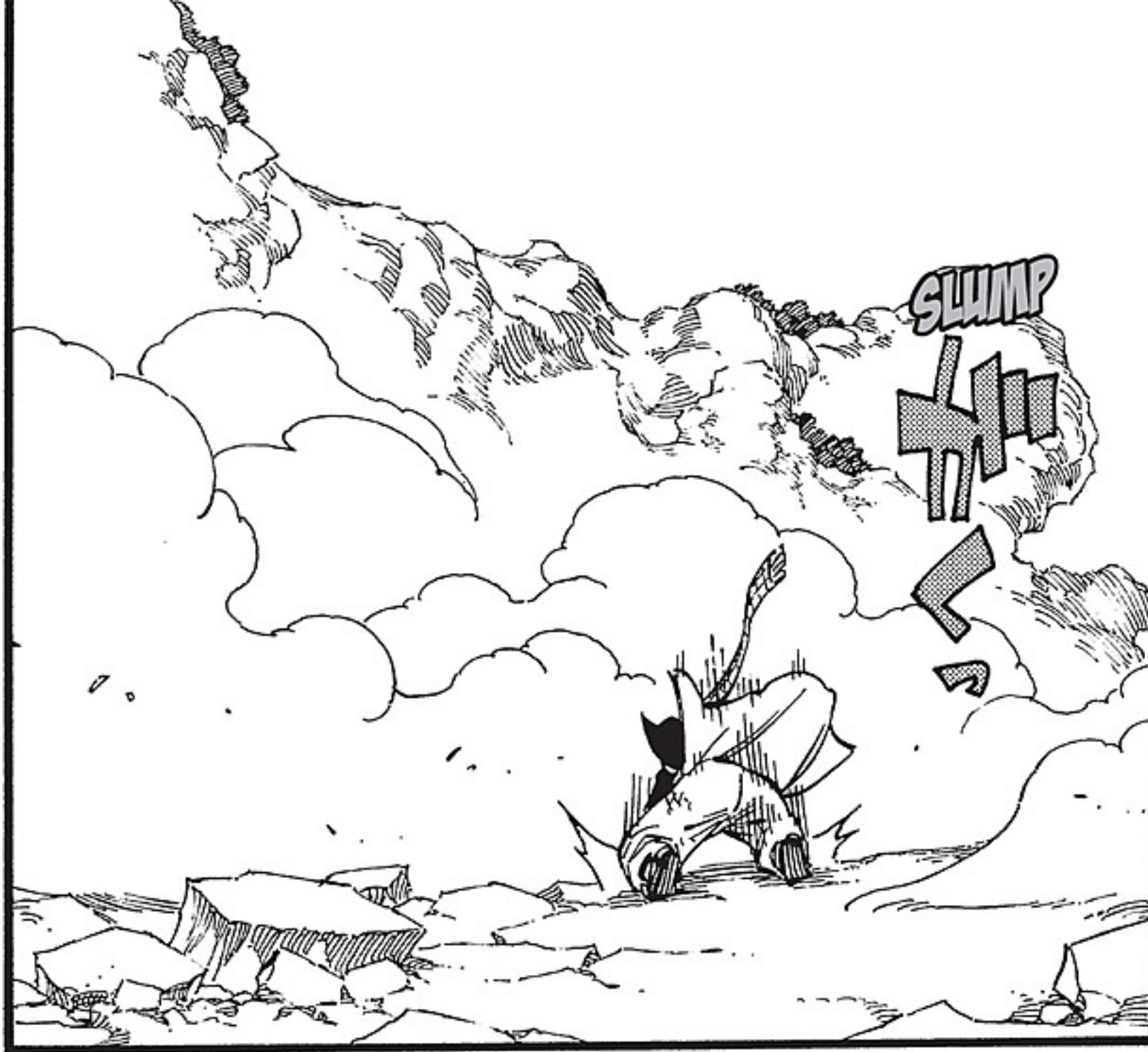
## Chapter 465: 400 Years



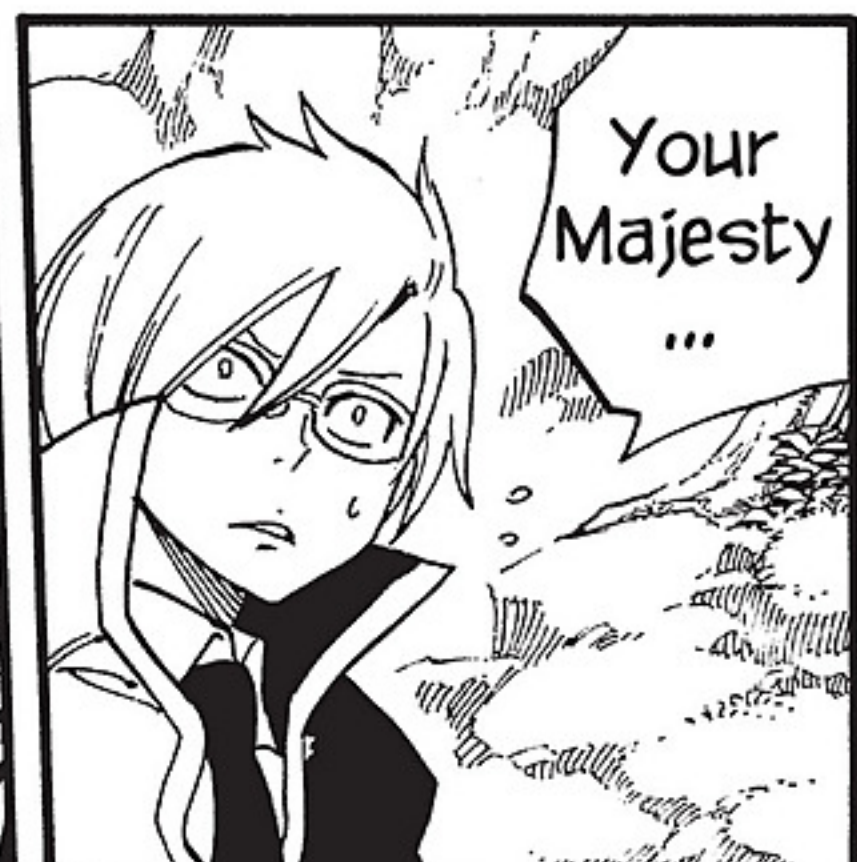
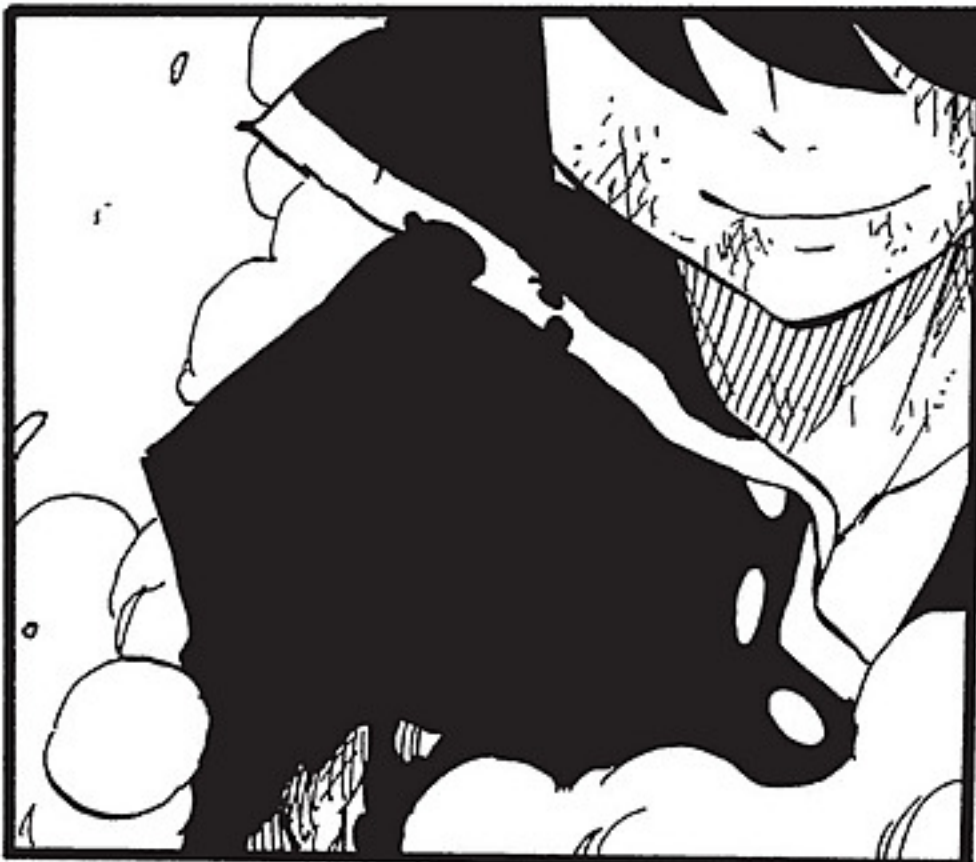




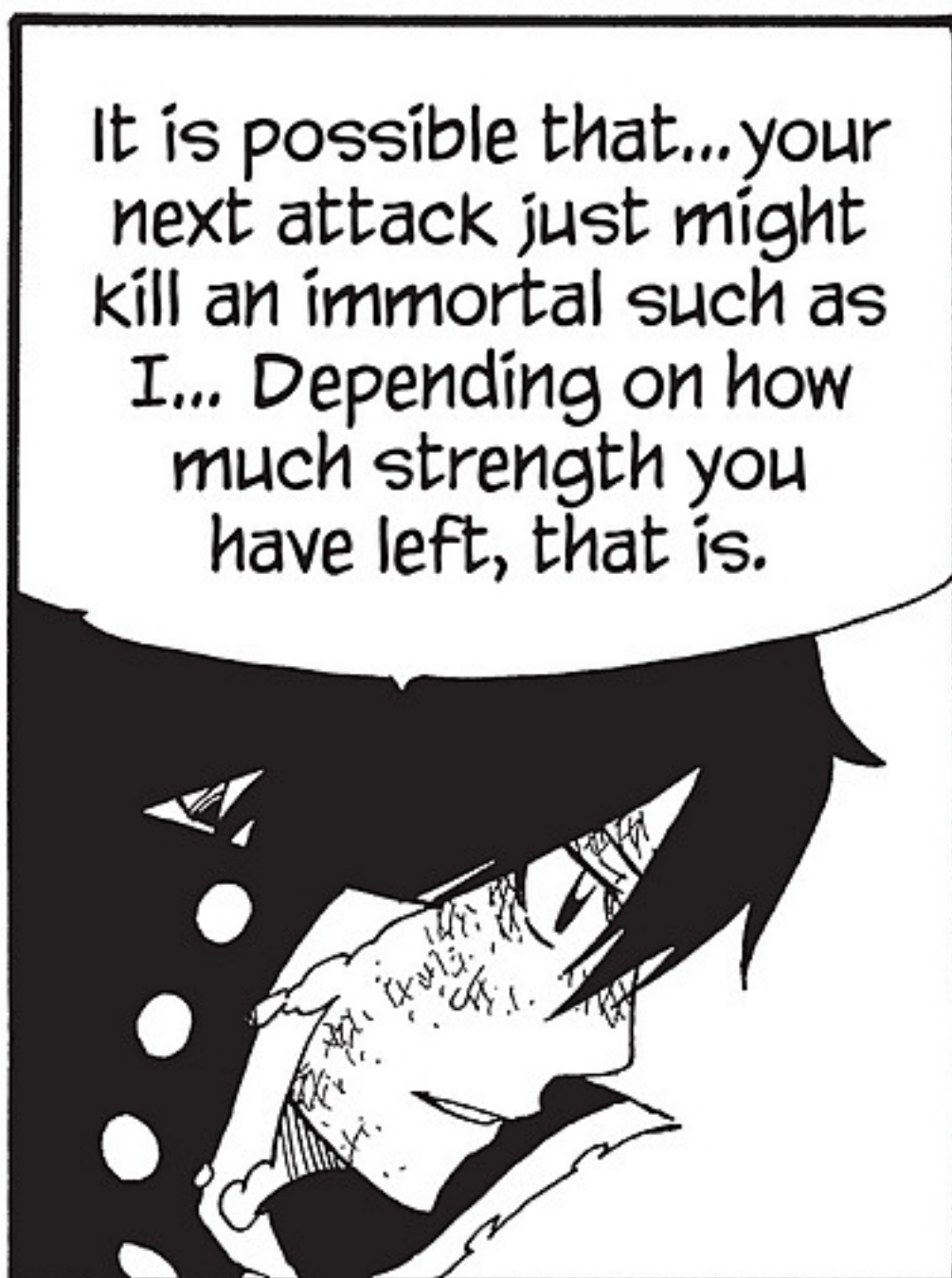
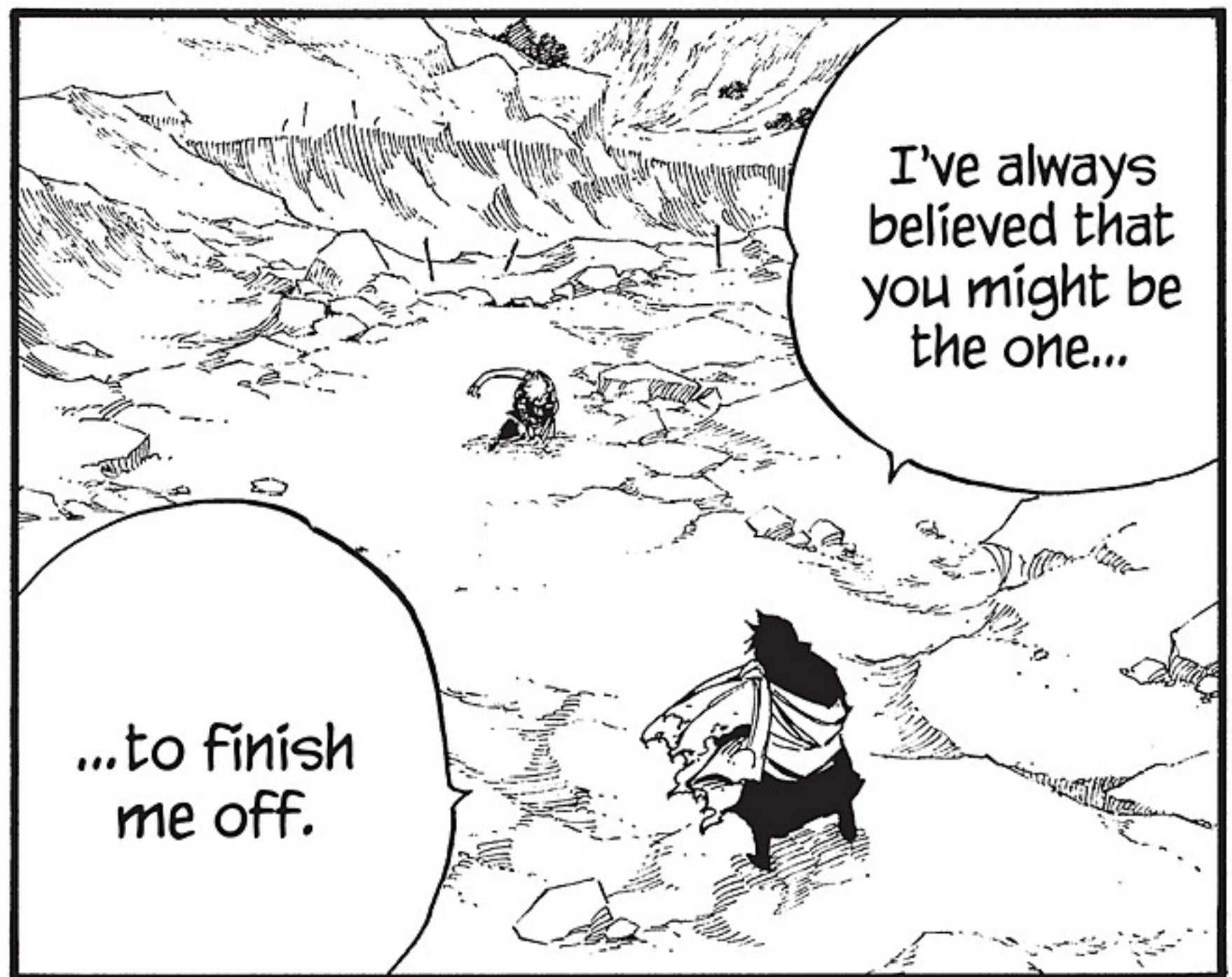




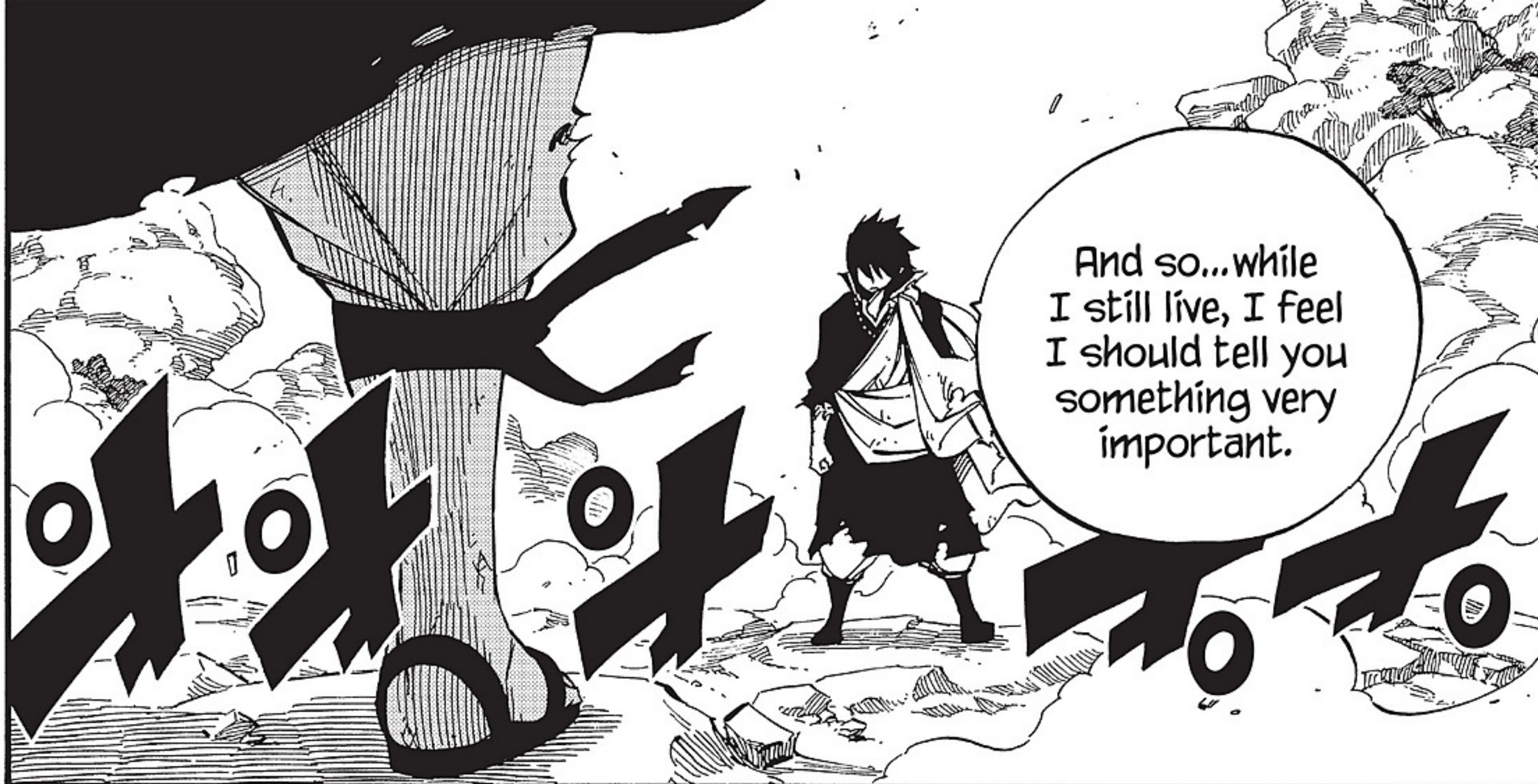




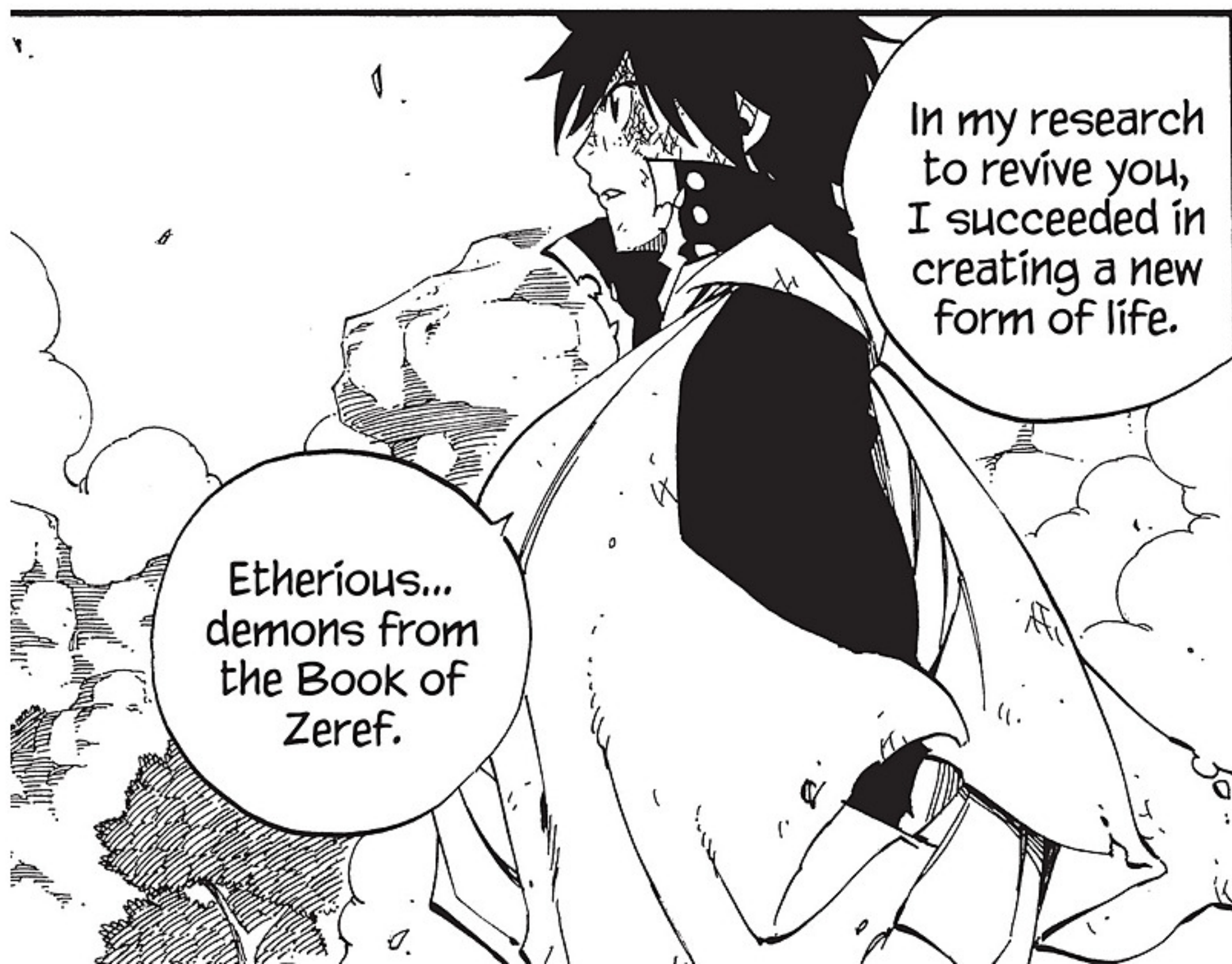
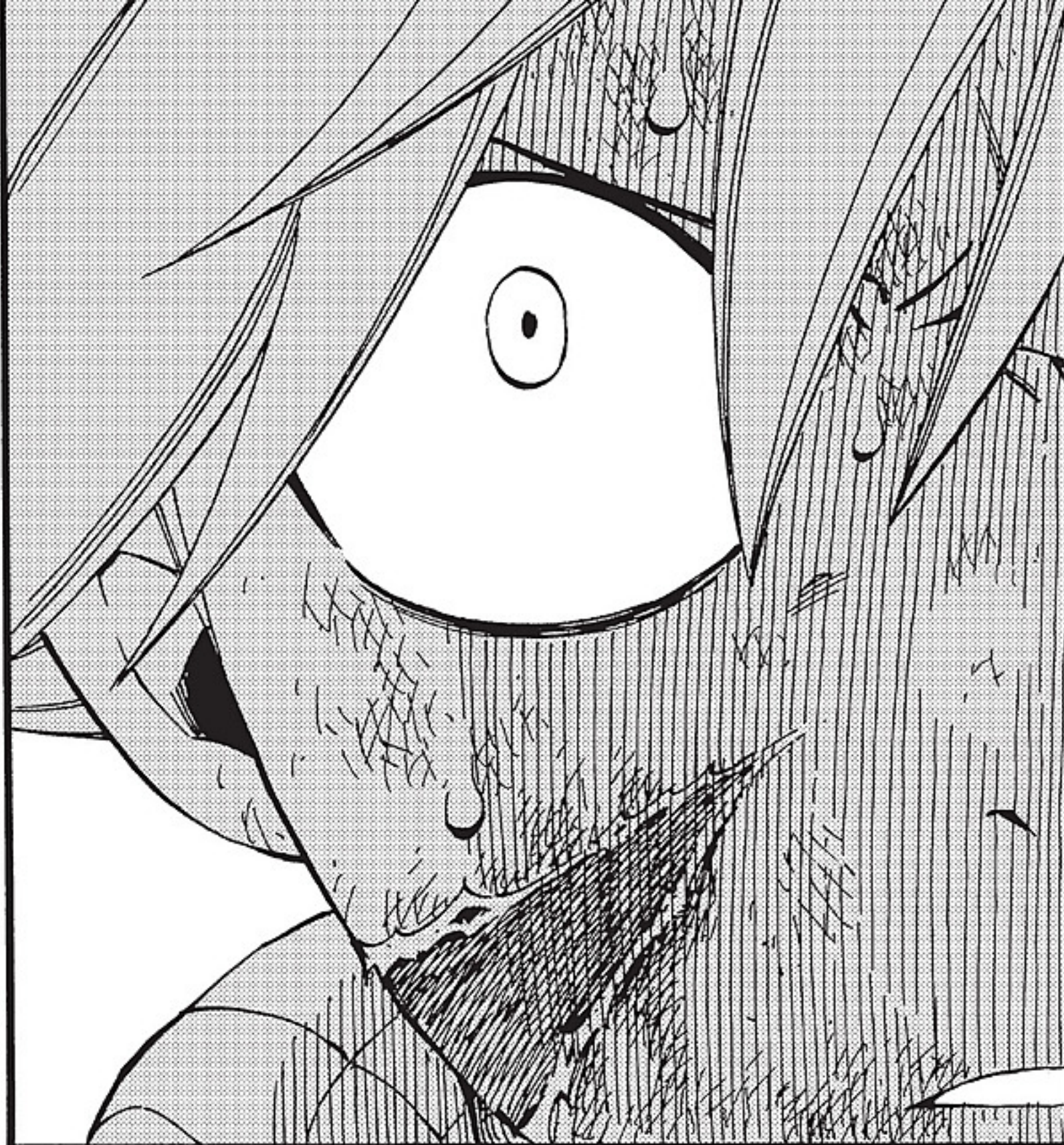




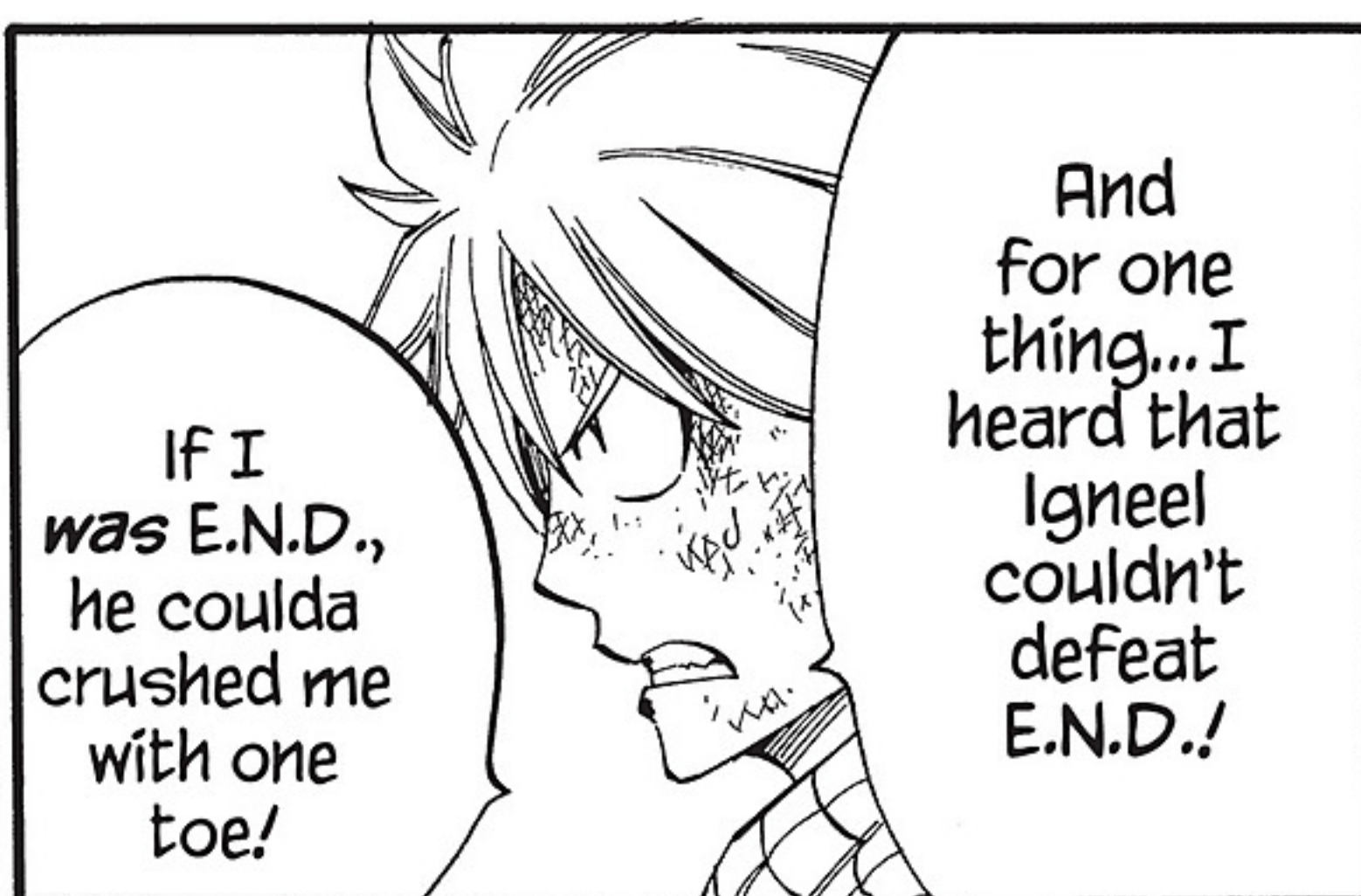
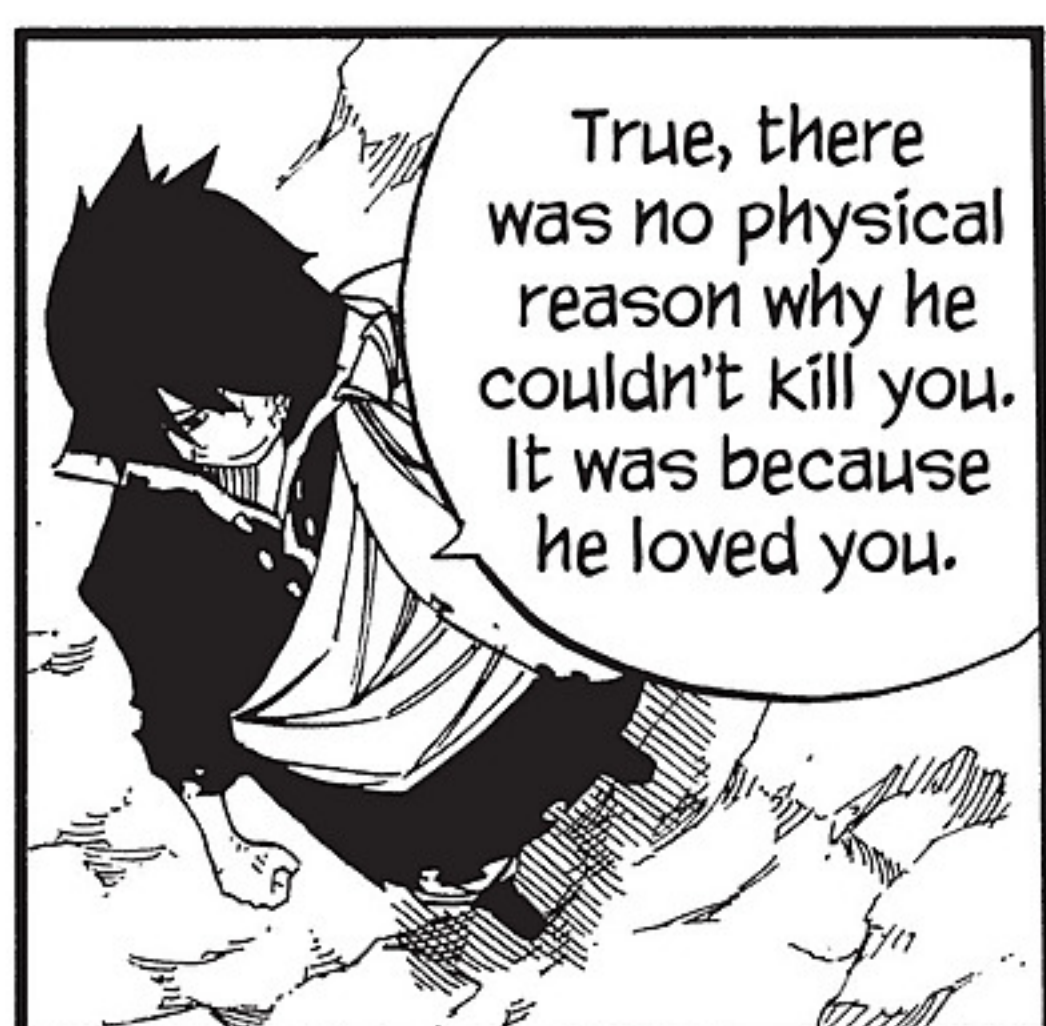




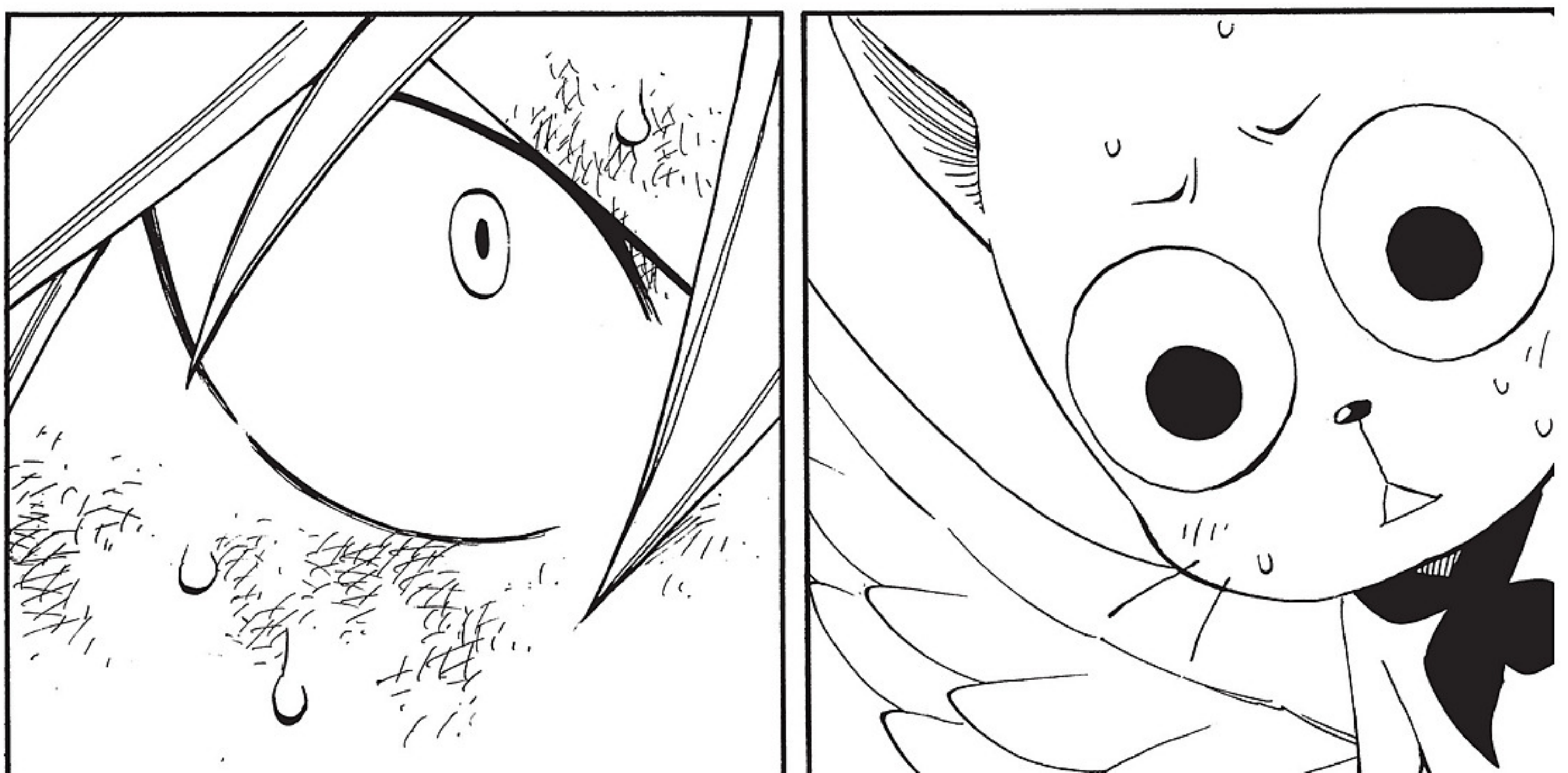
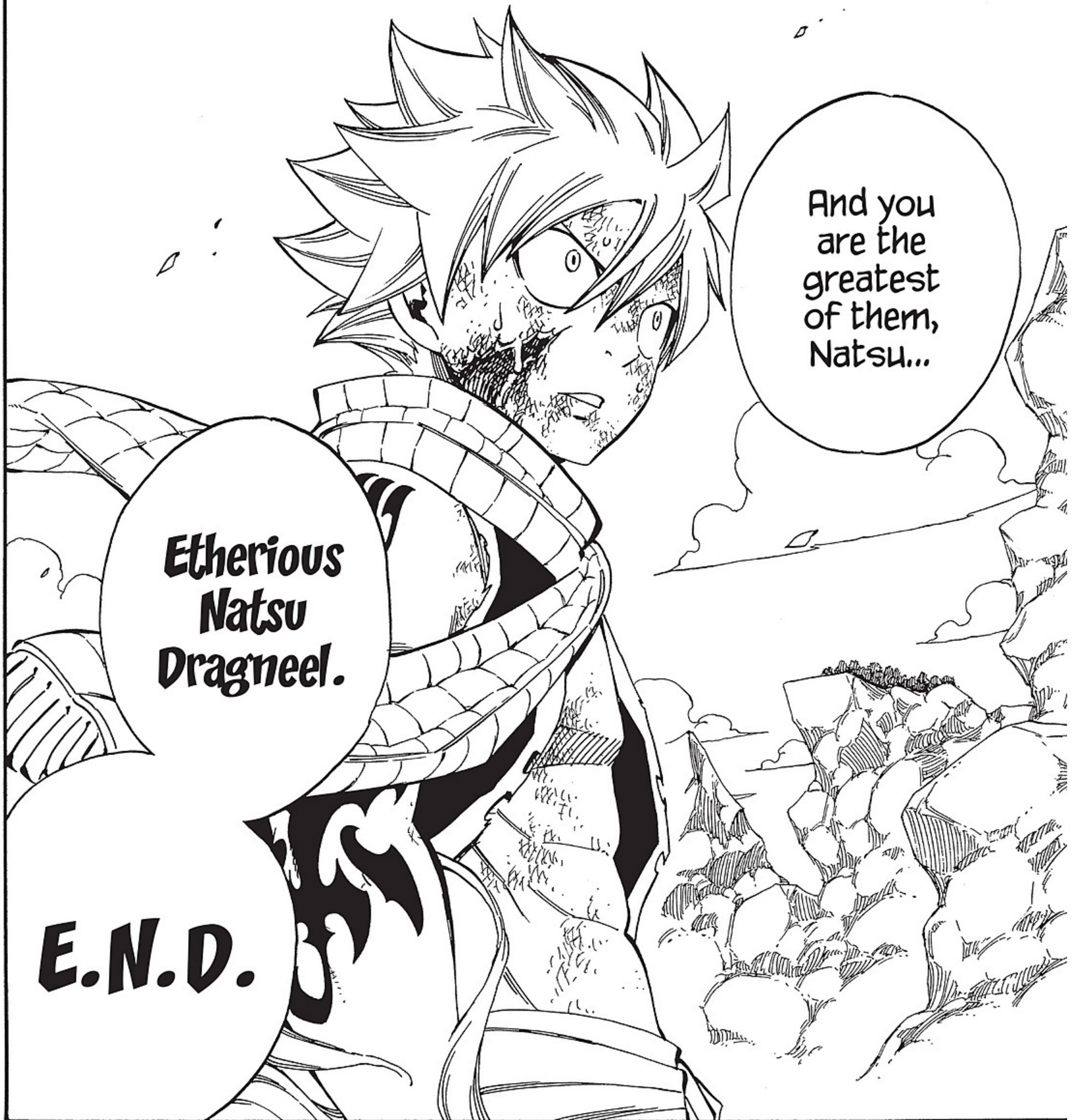












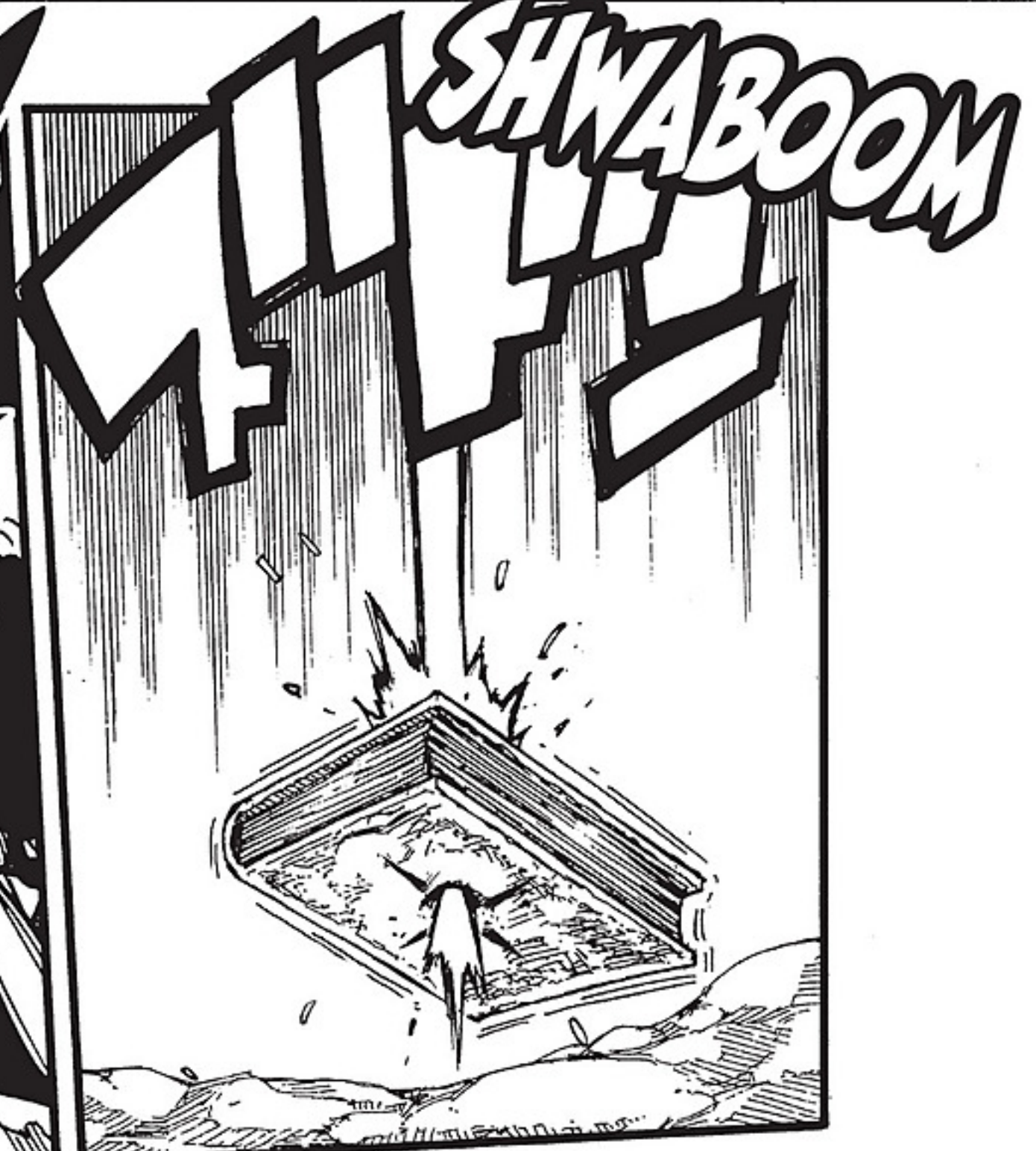




I keep  
telling you,  
I am *not*  
E.N.D.!!



But you see,  
you *did* play  
a significant  
role in creating  
Tartaros.



You  
always did  
have trouble  
listening to  
people.



AA...

AA...

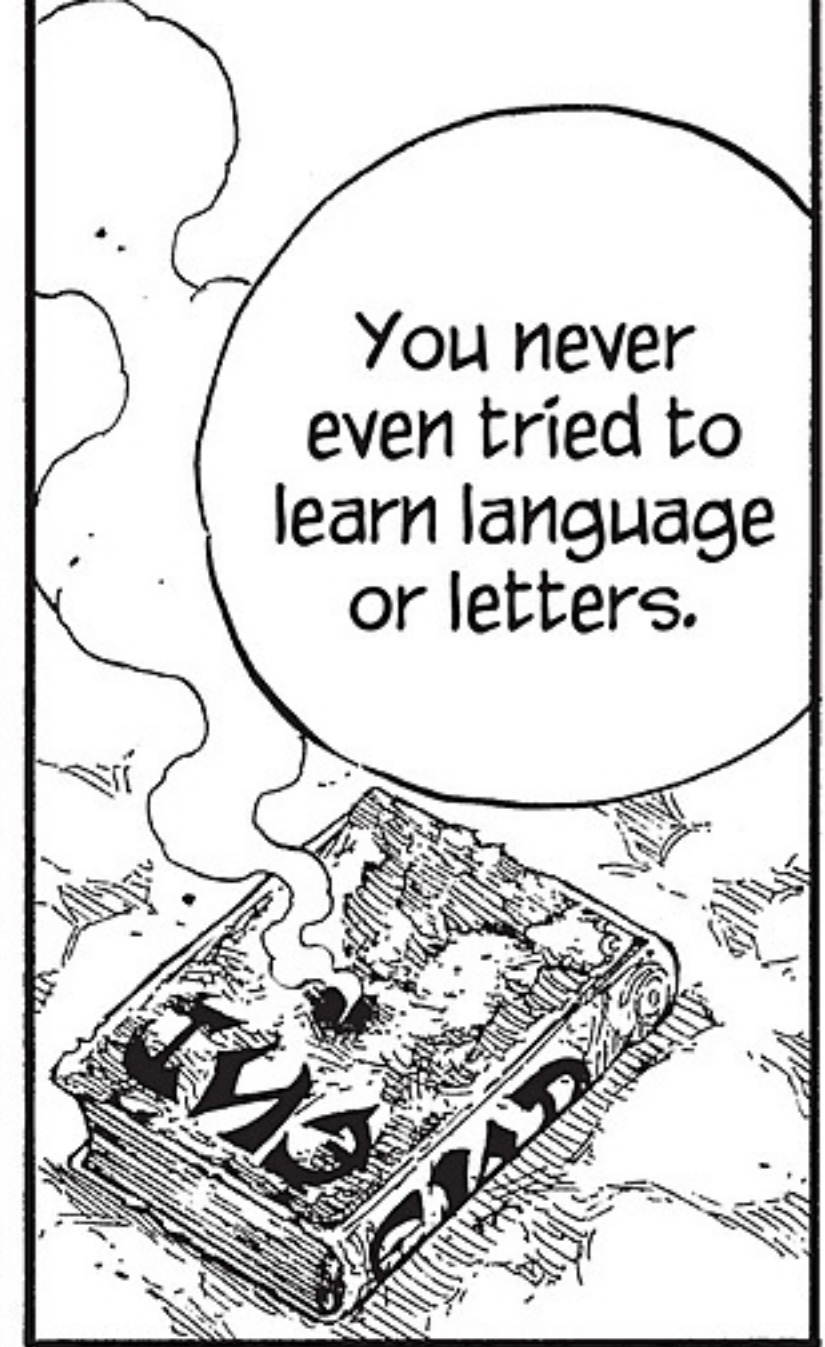




Your friend?!



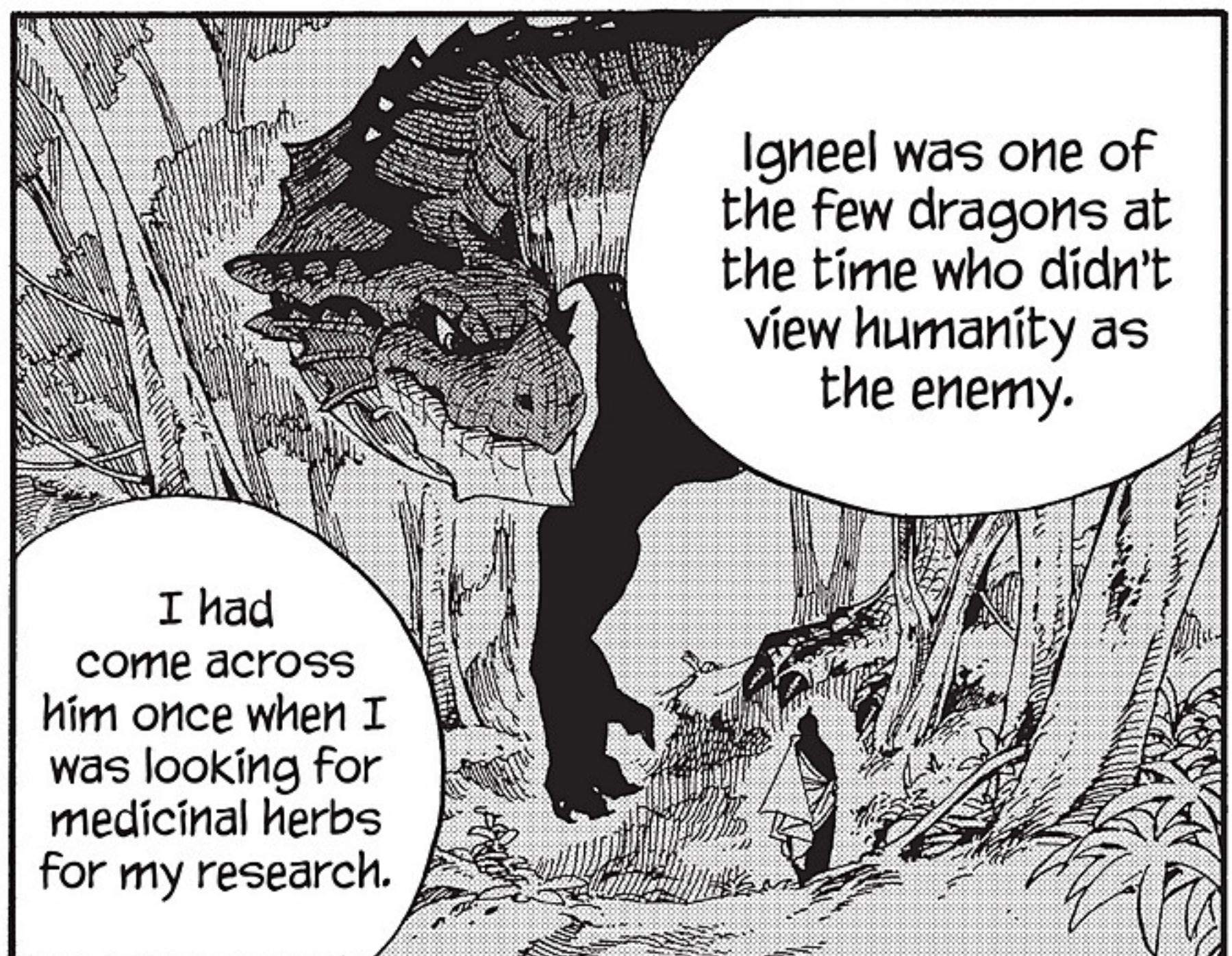
That's why I went to consult with my friend Igneel.



You never even tried to learn language or letters.

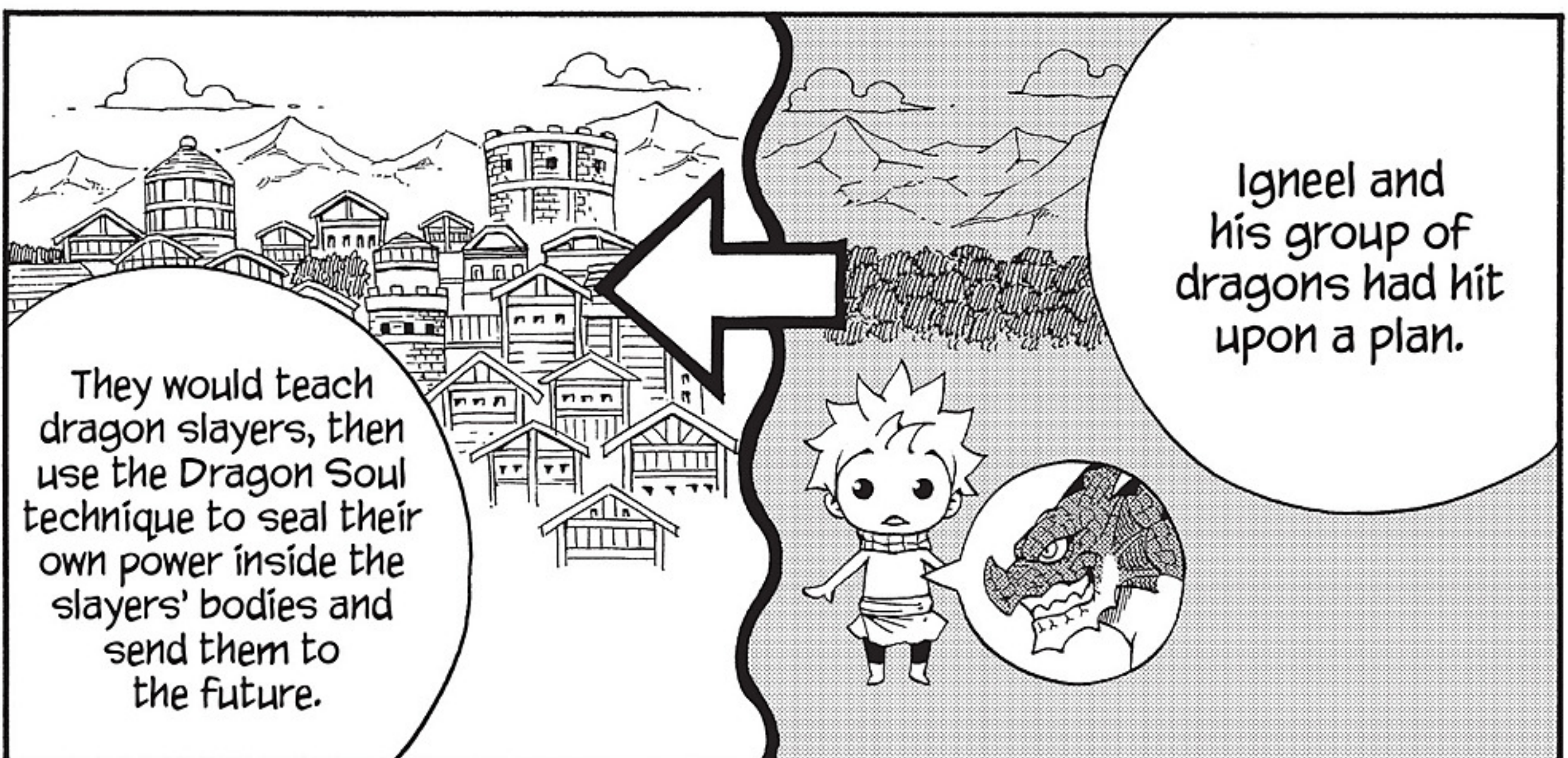


He suggested that he teach you dragon slayer magic.



Igneel was one of the few dragons at the time who didn't view humanity as the enemy.

I had come across him once when I was looking for medicinal herbs for my research.



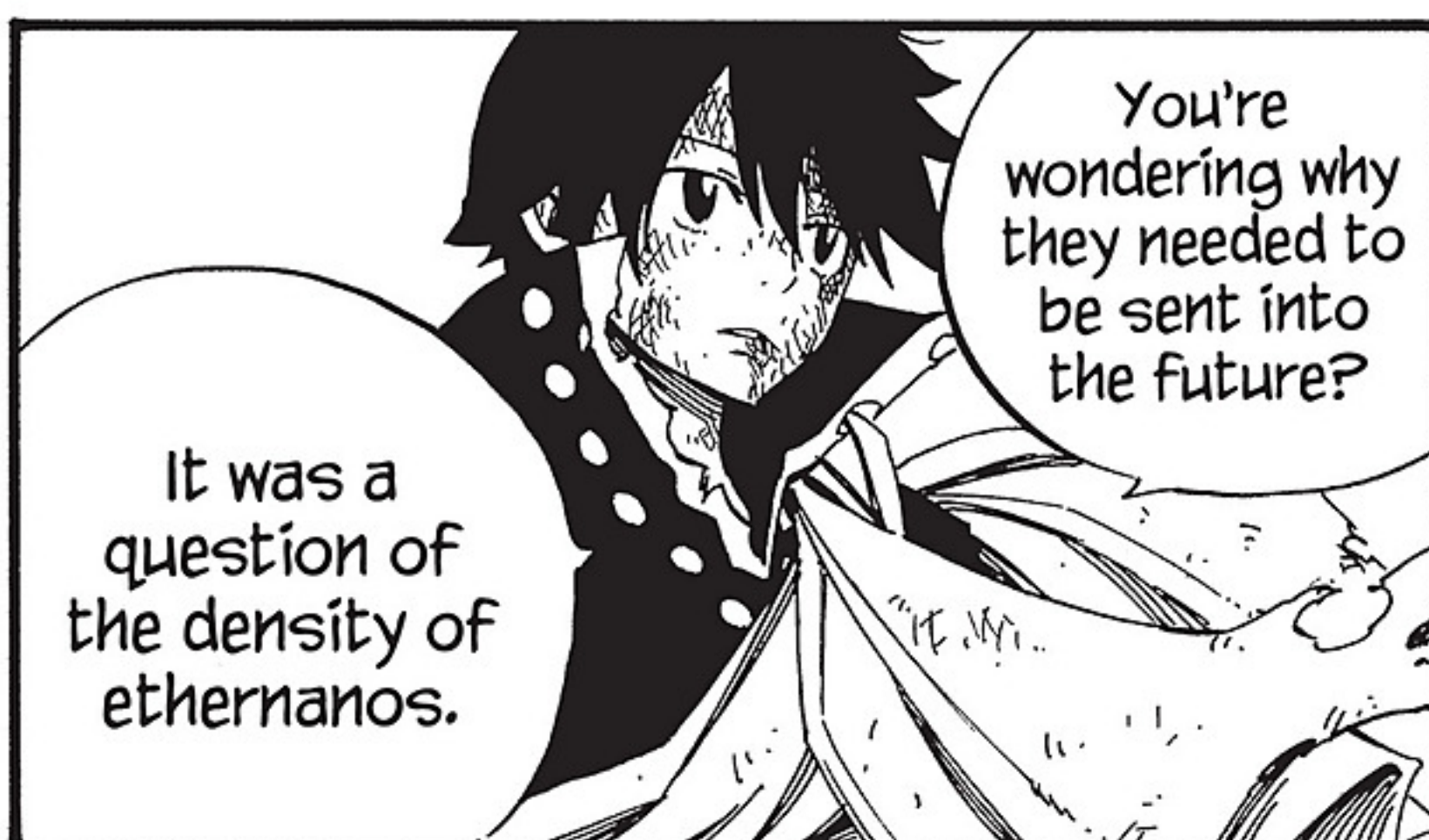
They would teach dragon slayers, then use the Dragon Soul technique to seal their own power inside the slayers' bodies and send them to the future.

Igneel and his group of dragons had hit upon a plan.



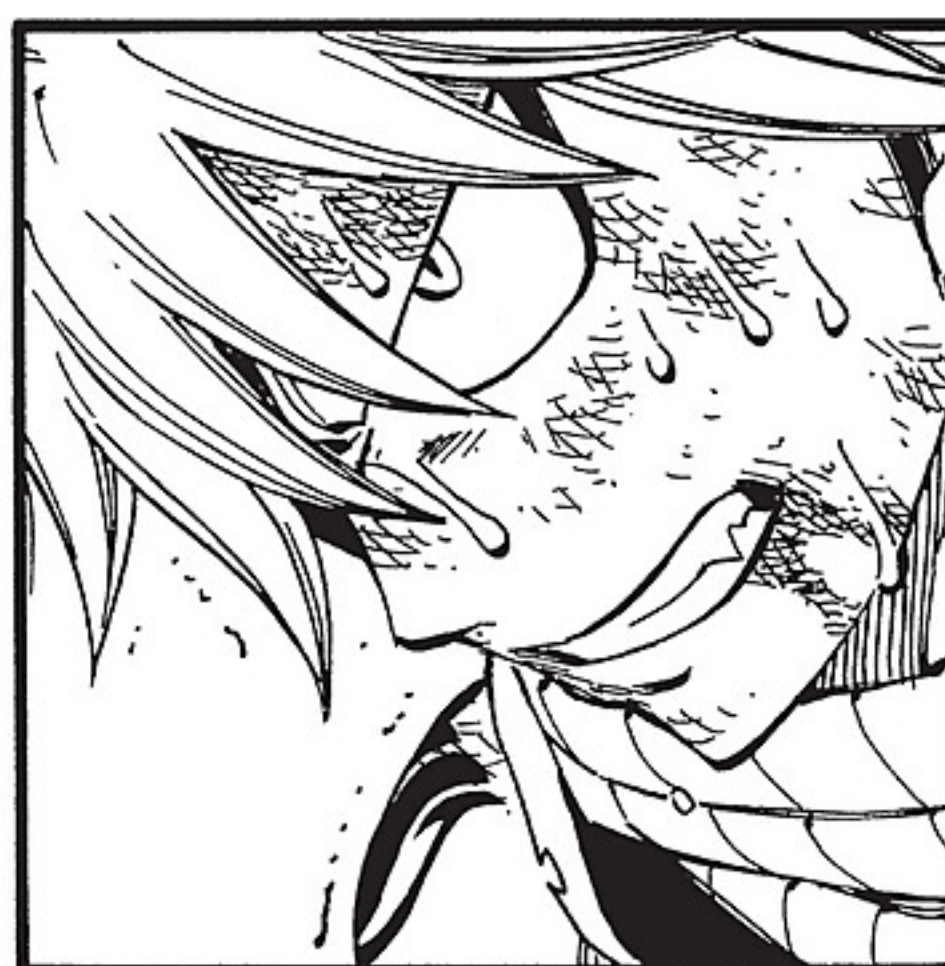


**All to defeat  
Acnologia.**

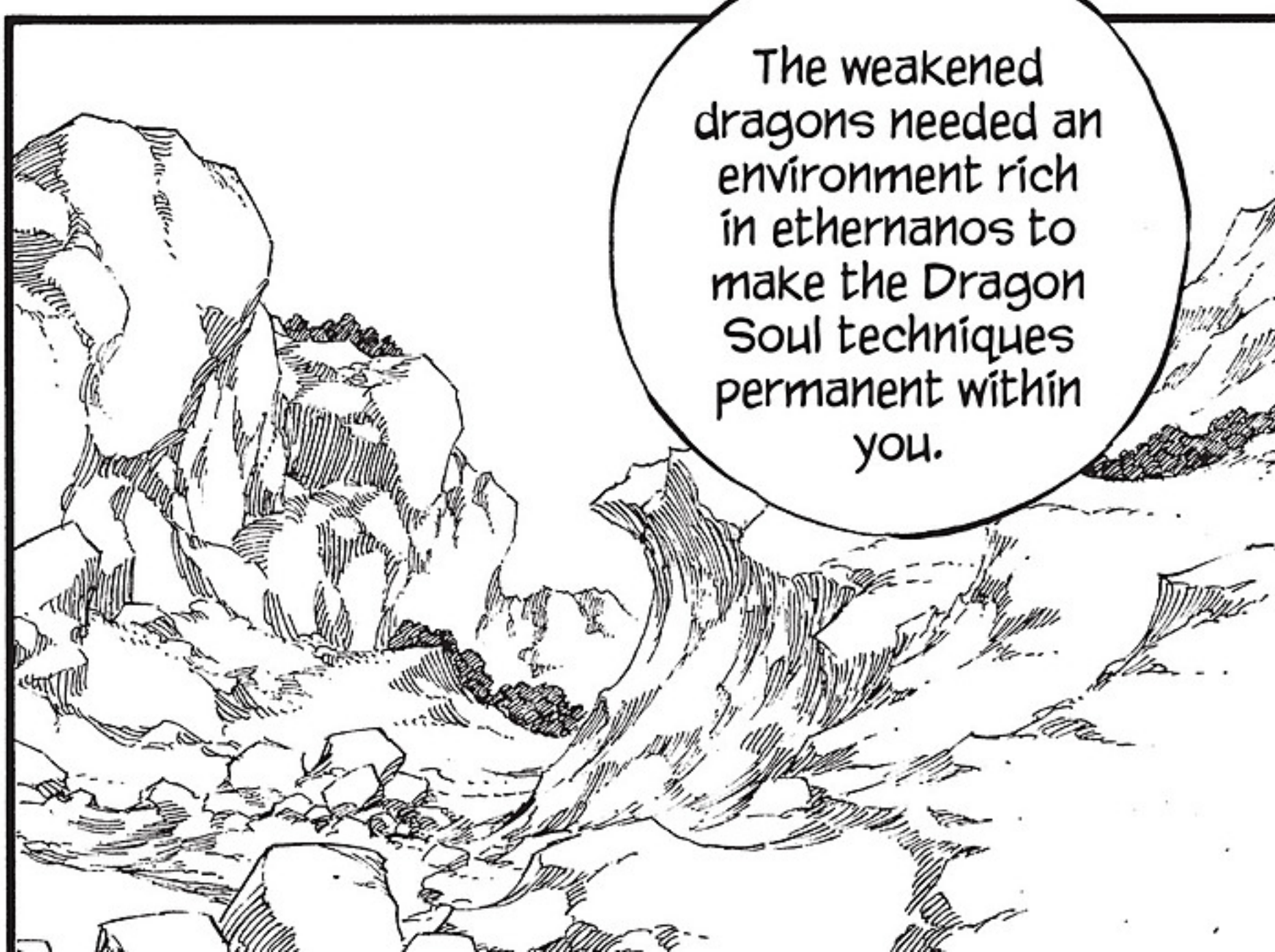


It was a  
question of  
the density of  
ethernanos.

You're  
wondering why  
they needed to  
be sent into  
the future?

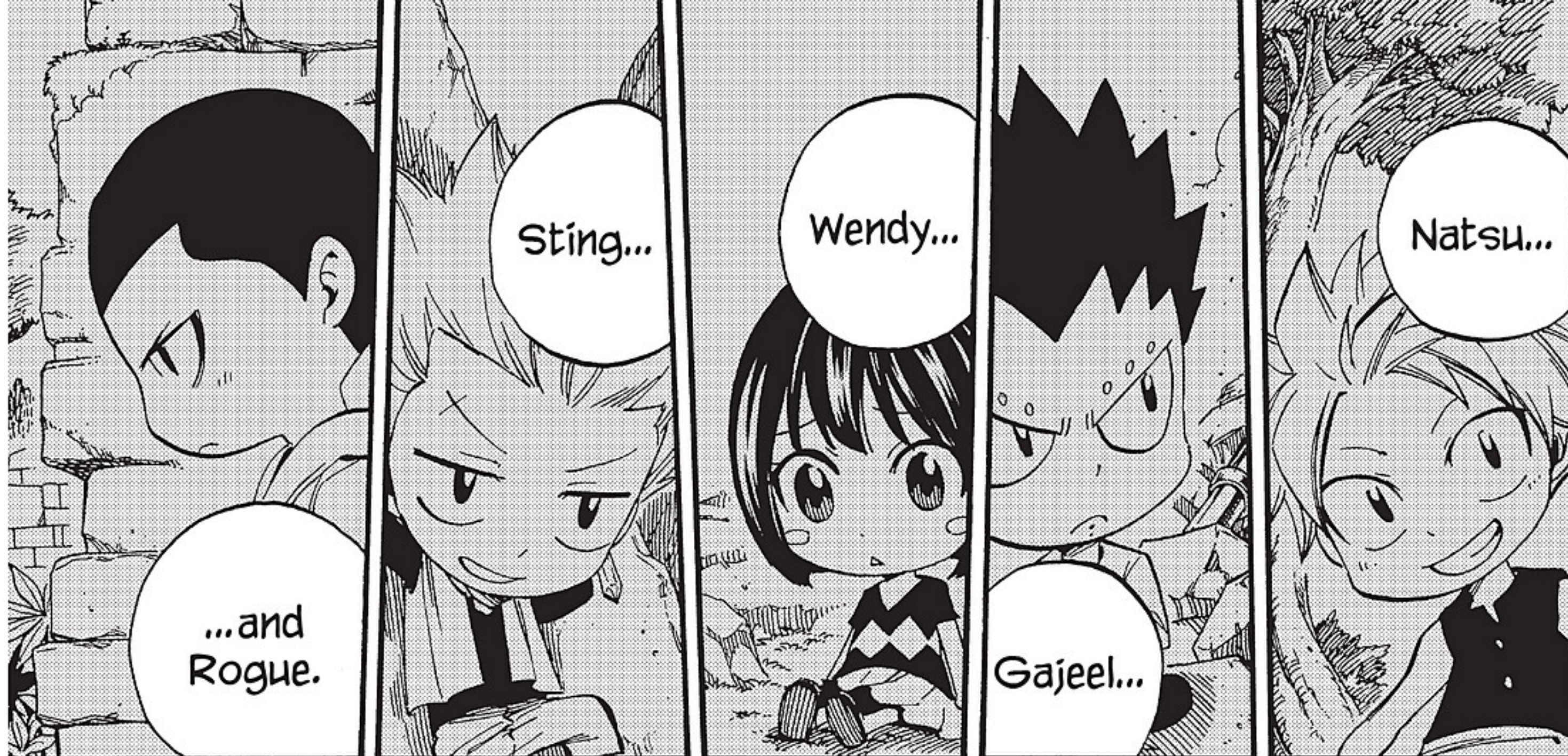


They  
selected five  
of you for  
this plan.



The weakened  
dragons needed an  
environment rich  
in ethernanos to  
make the Dragon  
Soul techniques  
permanent within  
you.





...and  
Rogue.

Sting...

Wendy...

Gajeel...

Natsu...

I wanted you to  
become strong  
enough to finally  
kill me.

Though  
my goal  
was not  
Acnologia...

Well, you  
had me,  
but I was  
taking part  
in the plan  
as well.

All children  
with no human  
ties left.

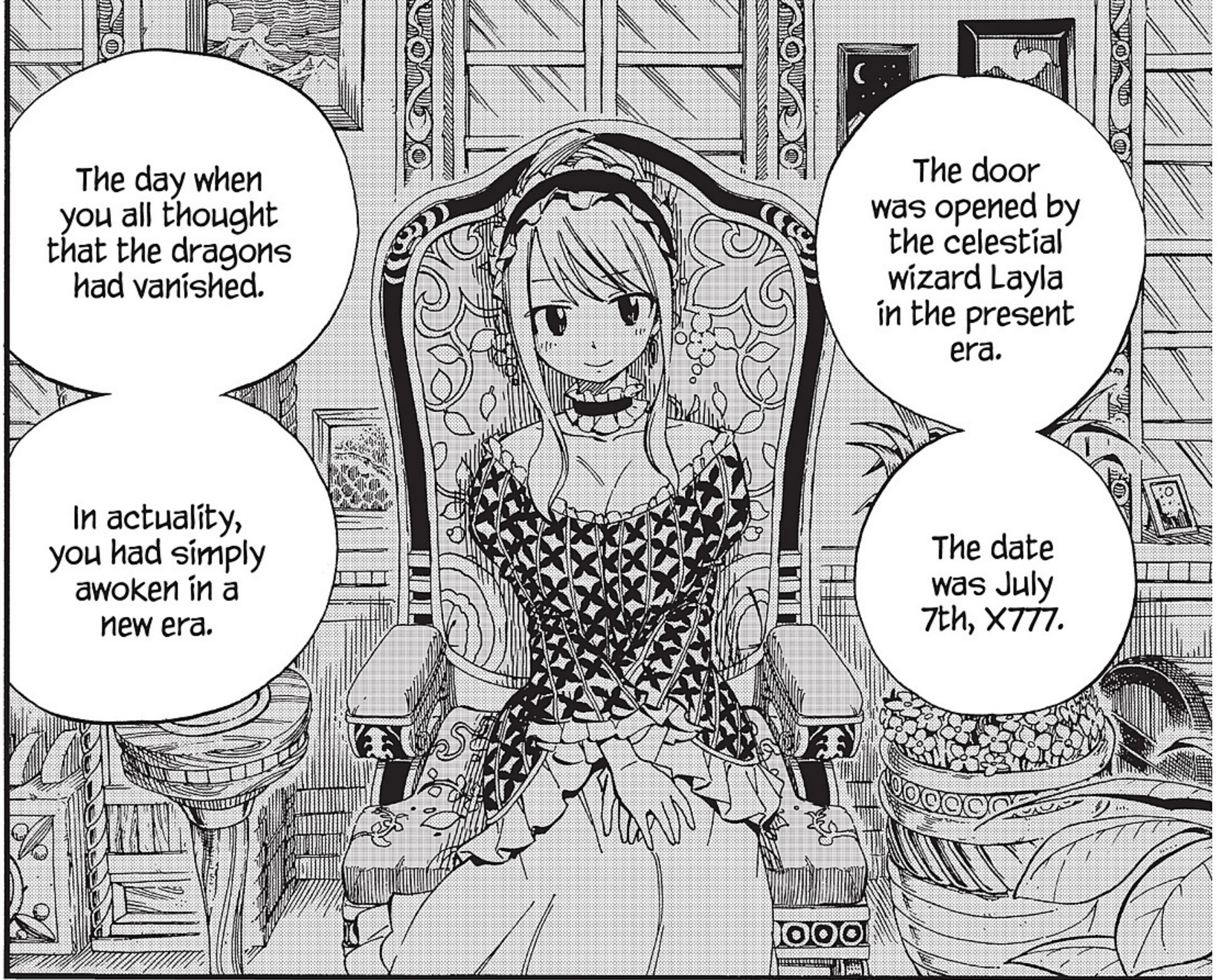
We simply told Anna's  
clan of our plan, and they  
passed the knowledge  
down through generations  
of their family until such  
an age was at  
hand.

We  
had no  
particular  
era in  
mind.

...and a  
celestial  
wizard by  
the name  
of Anna  
opened it  
for us.

Thus,  
the door to  
the future,  
Eclipse, was  
built...



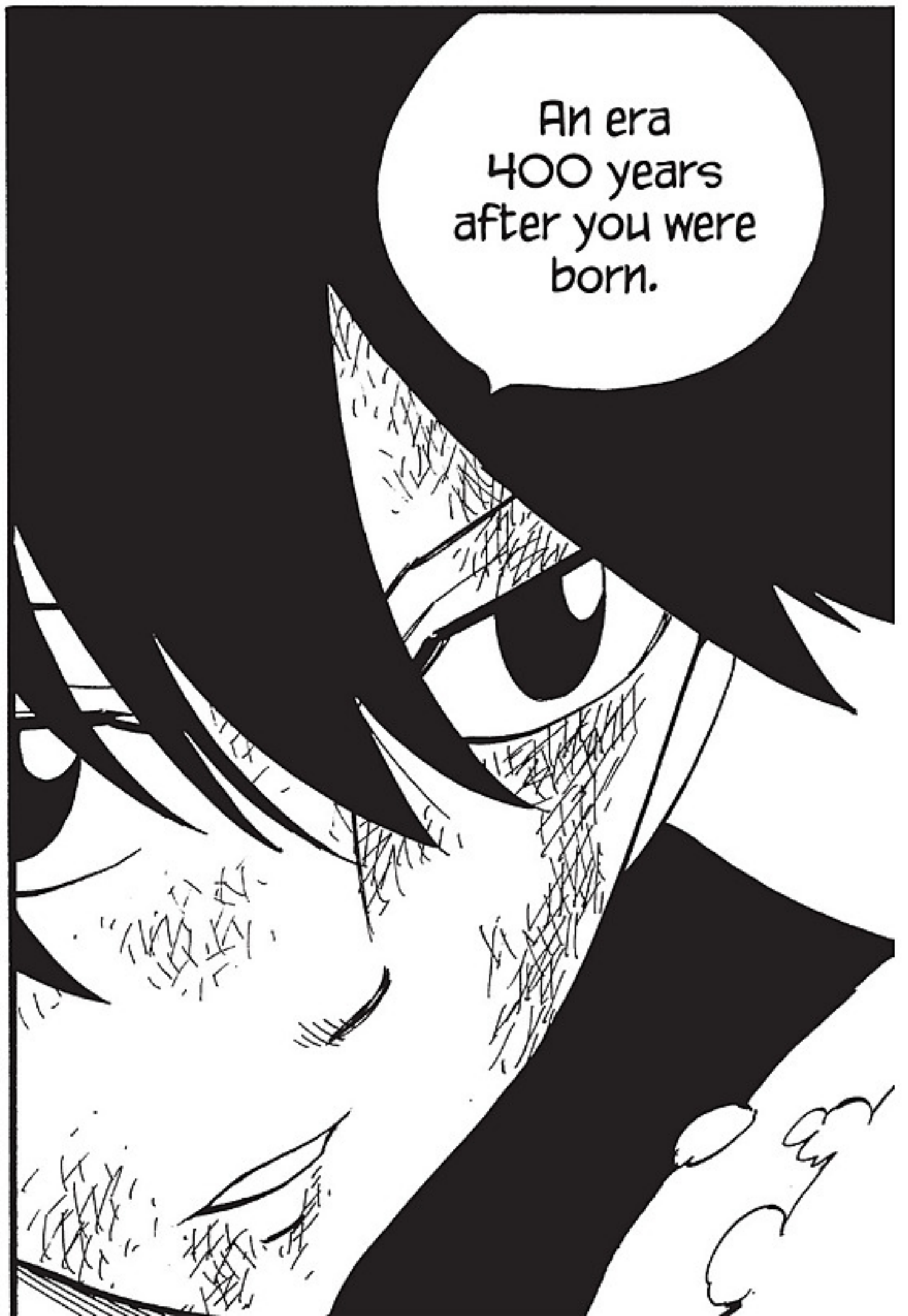


The day when  
you all thought  
that the dragons  
had vanished.

The door  
was opened by  
the celestial  
wizard Layla  
in the present  
era.

In actuality,  
you had simply  
awoken in a  
new era.

The date  
was July  
7th, X777.



An era  
400 years  
after you were  
born.

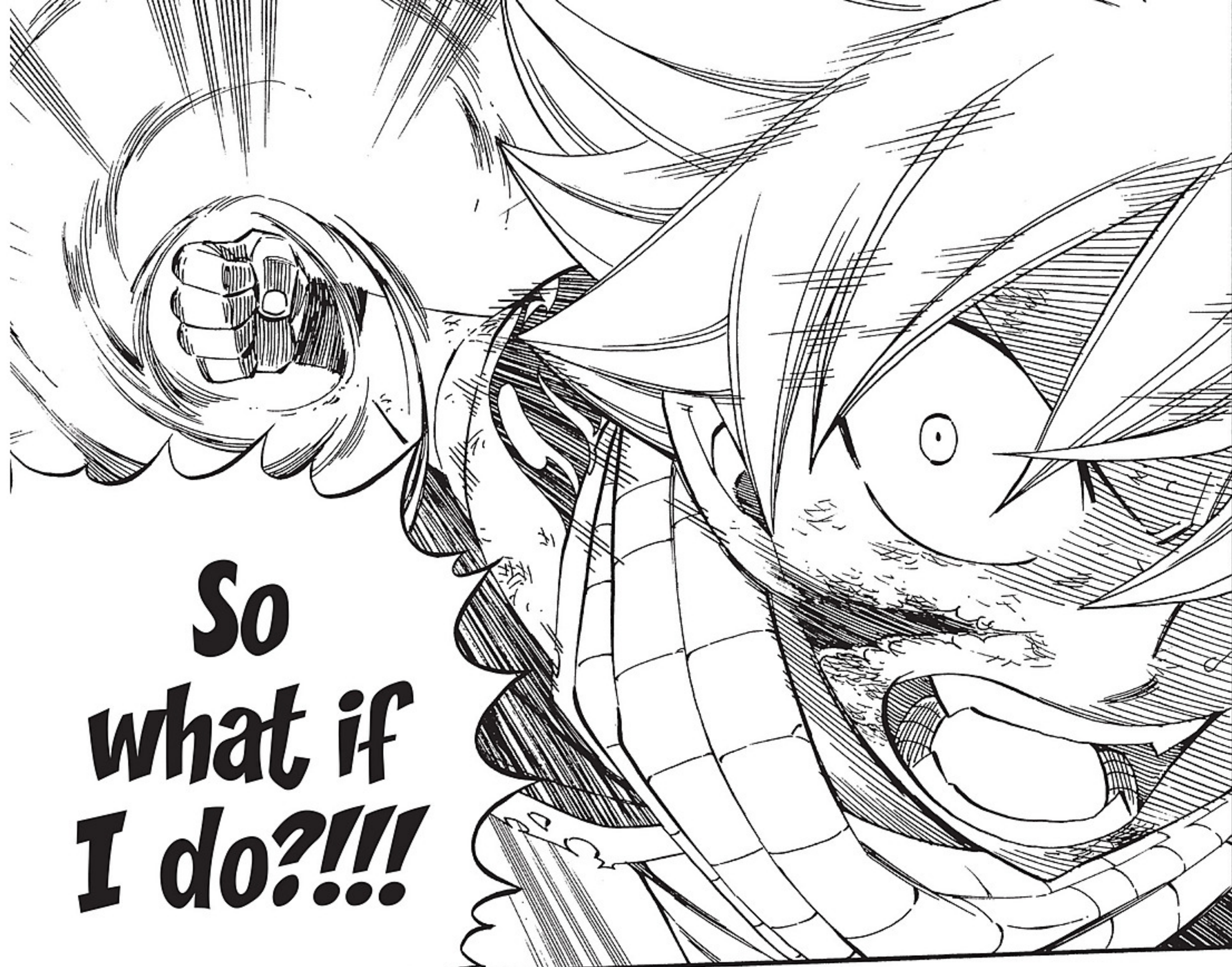








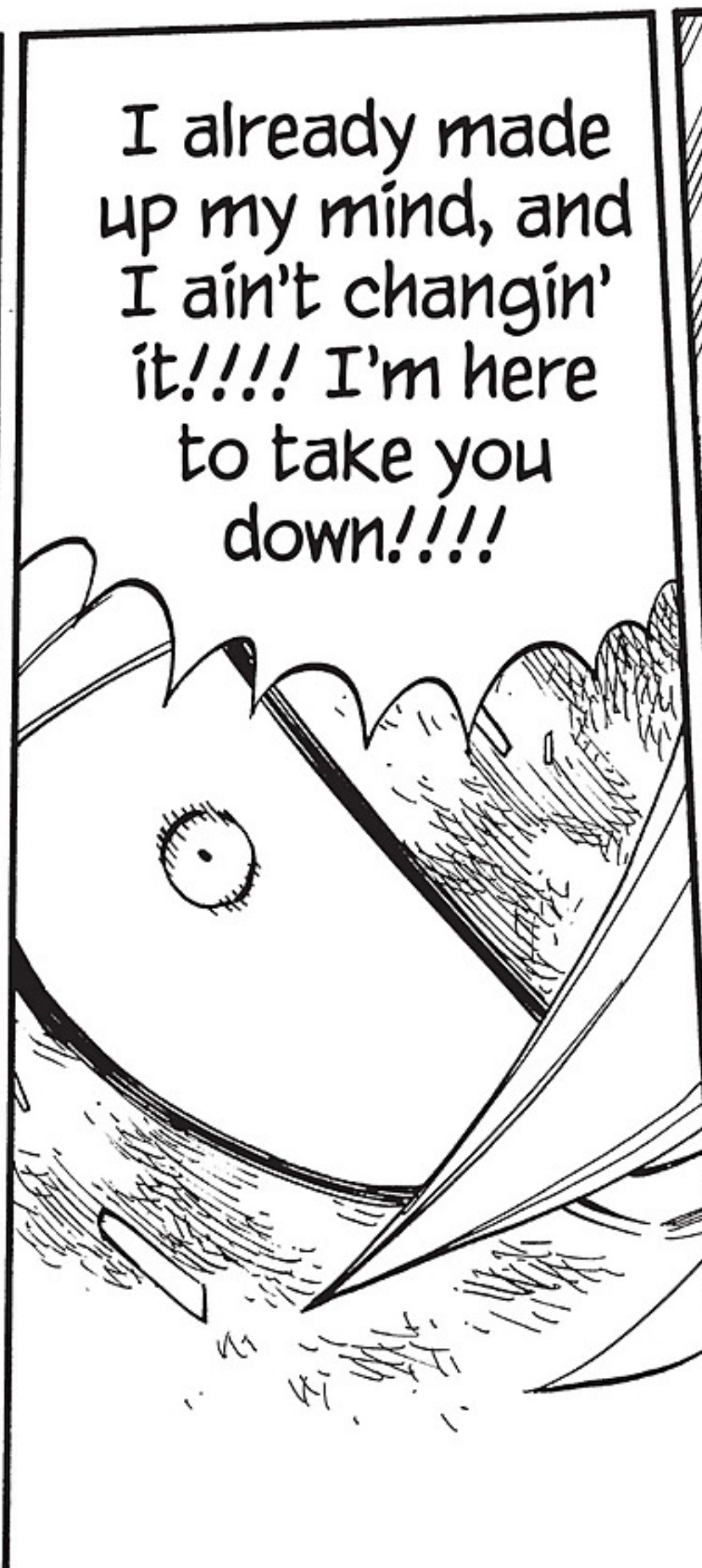




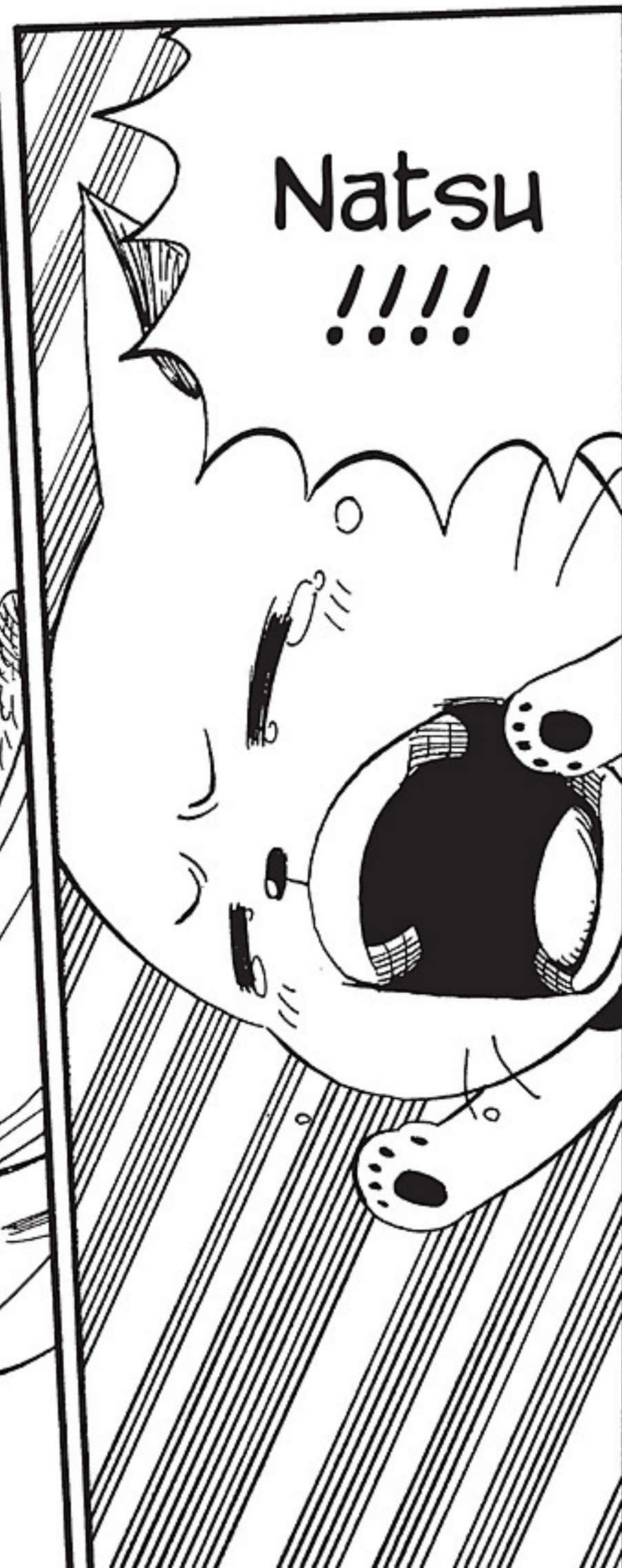
**So  
what if  
I do?!!!**



And this  
is your very  
last chance  
to stop  
me.

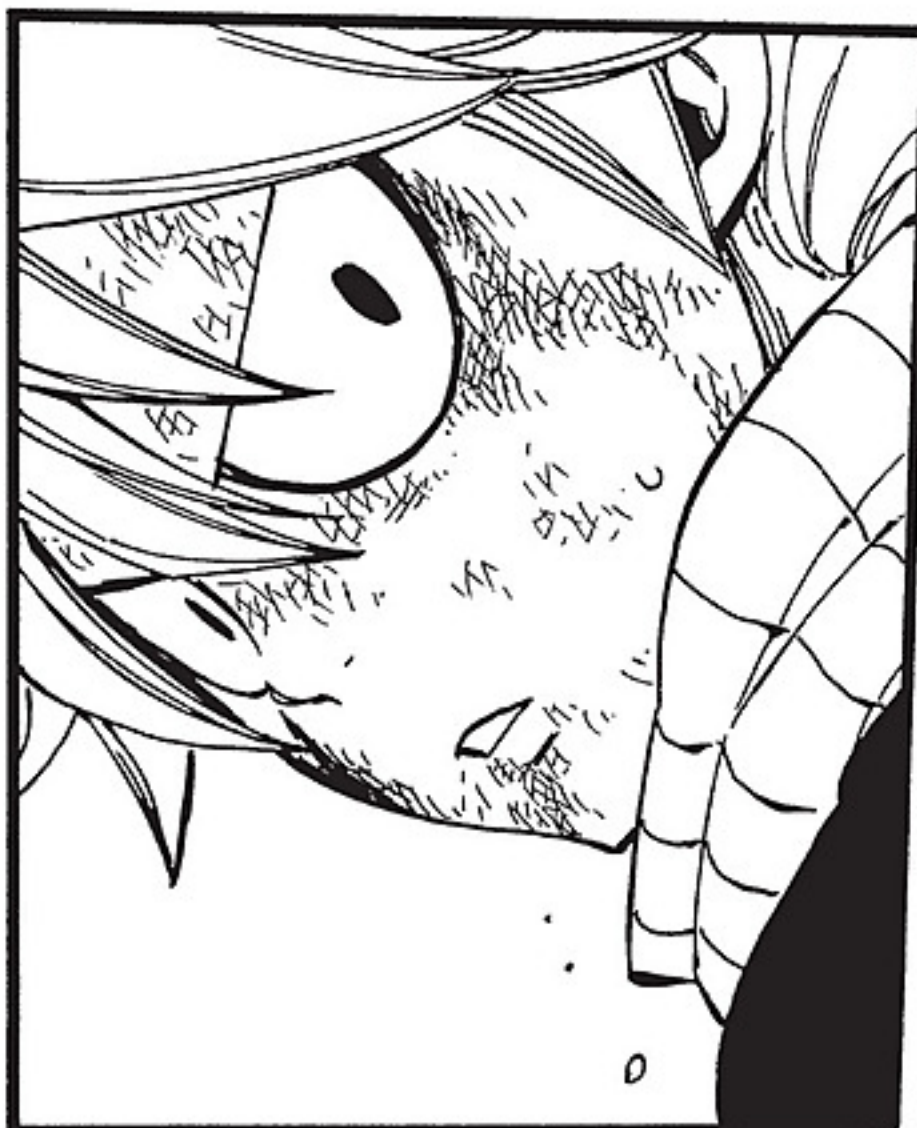
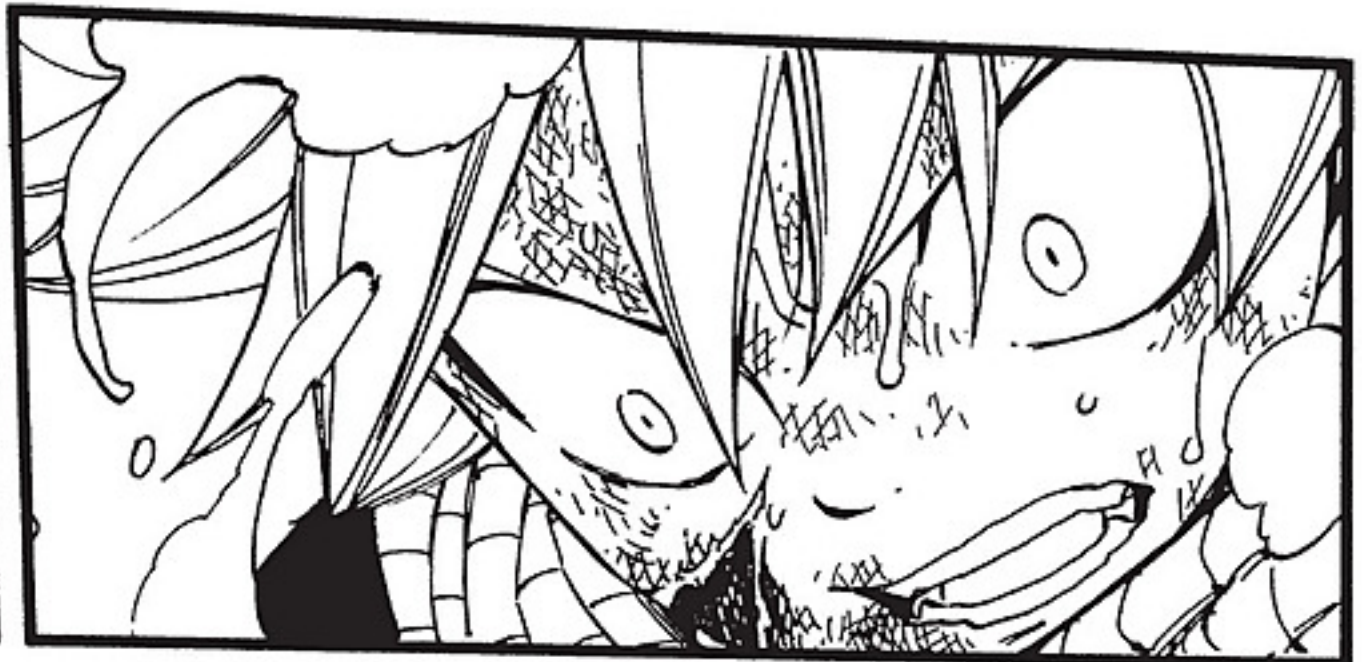
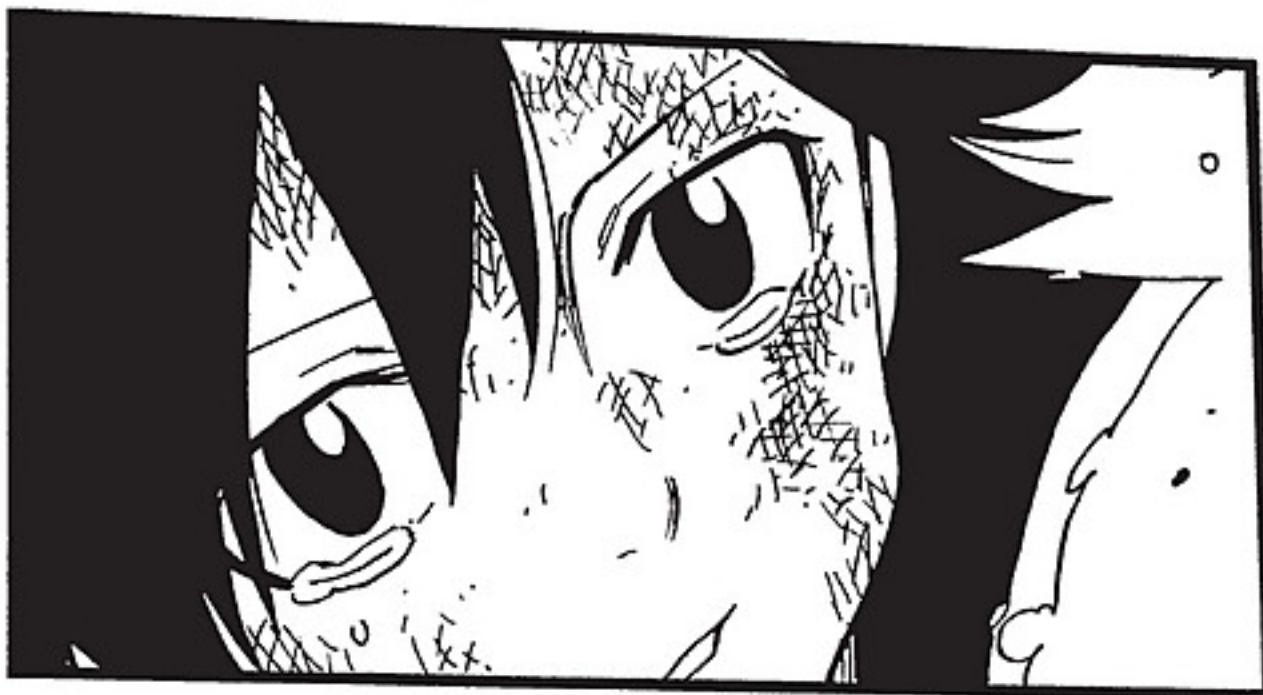
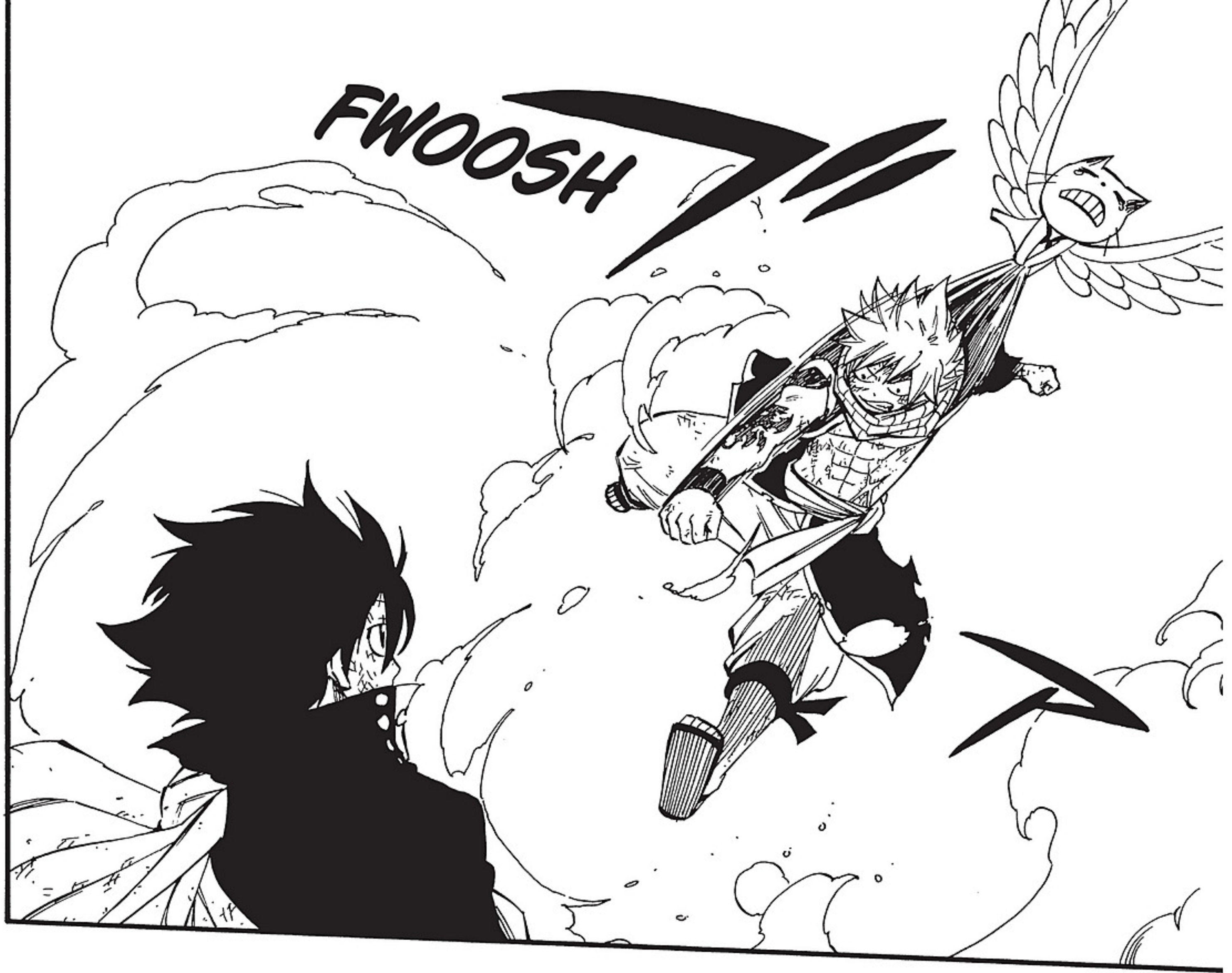


I already made  
up my mind, and  
I ain't changin'  
it!!!! I'm here  
to take you  
down!!!!



**Natsu  
!!!!**









***I don't  
want  
you to  
die!!!***



***If I don't do it  
now, I'll never  
be able to beat  
Zeref!!!!***

***SSST-  
7  
7  
7***

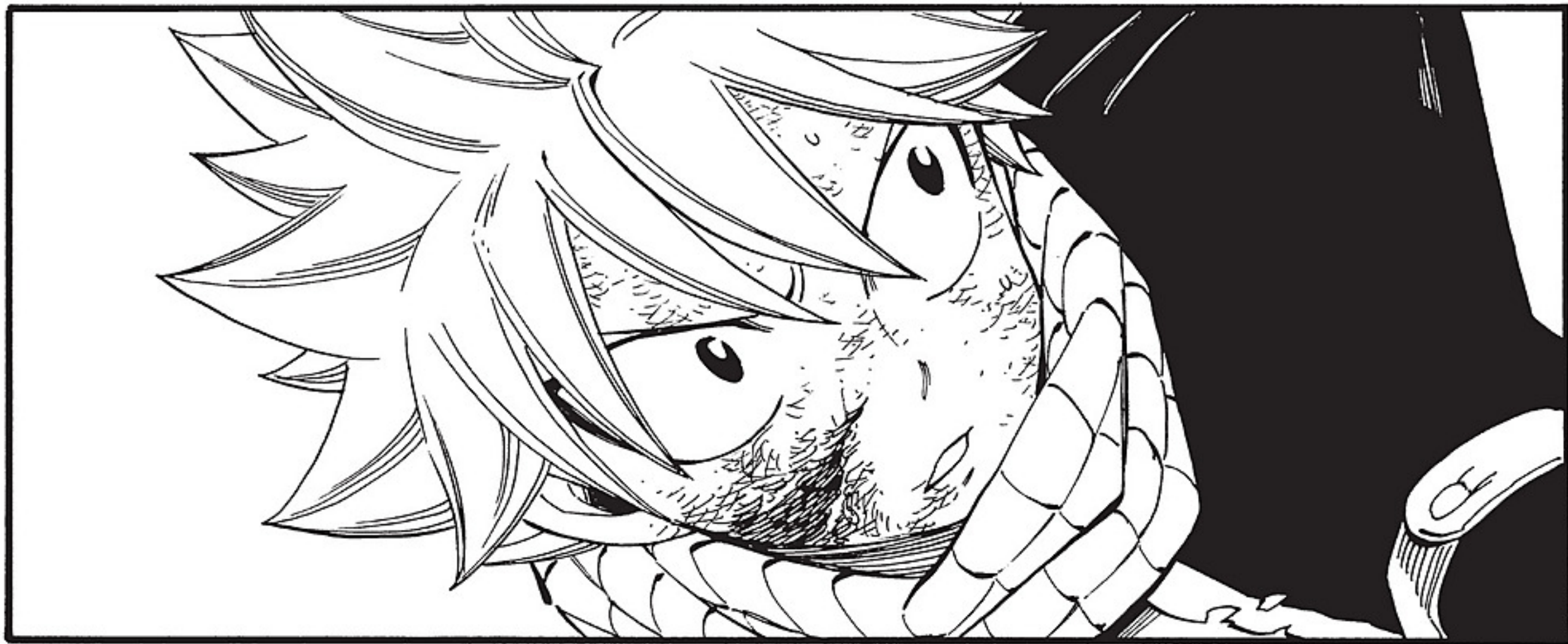
***Let me  
down!!!! Igneel's  
power is fadin'  
away!!!!***



***Aren't  
you my  
friend,  
too?!!!***

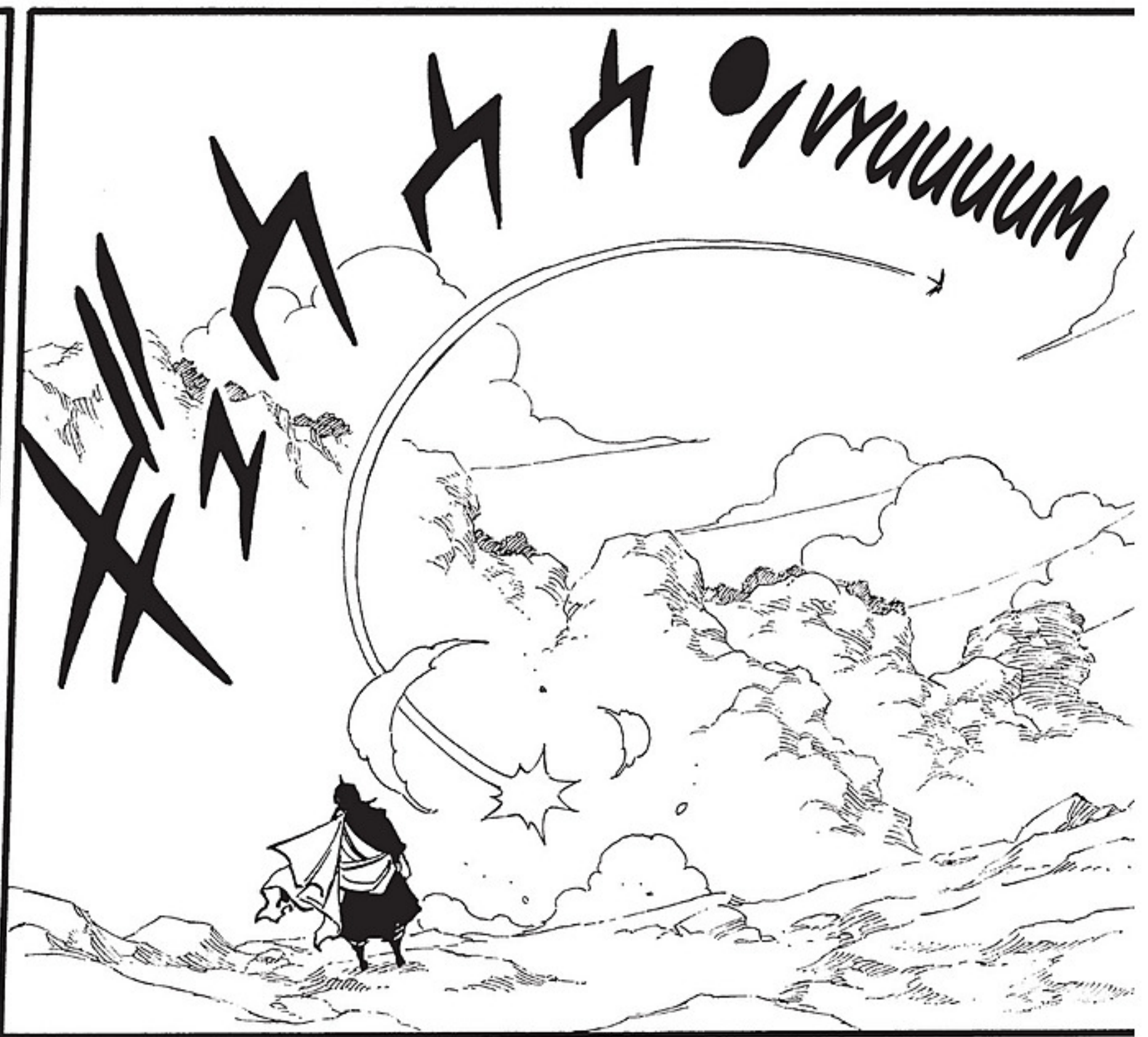
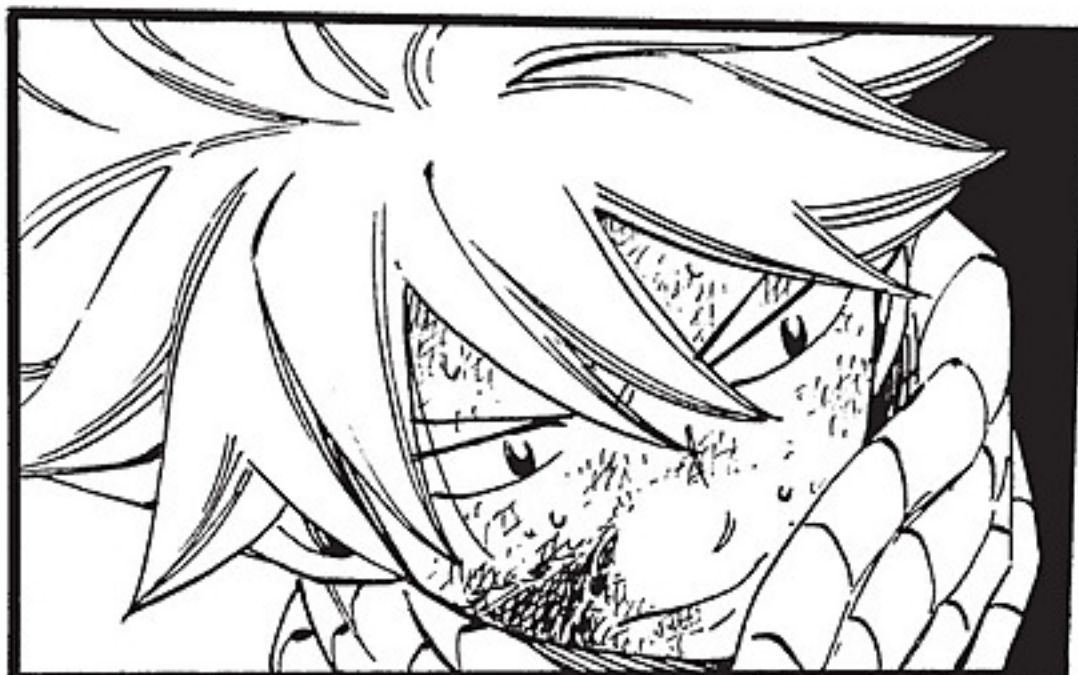
***I'm  
your  
friend,  
Natsu  
!!!!***





I'm taking you back alive...

Back home, to Fairy Tail...

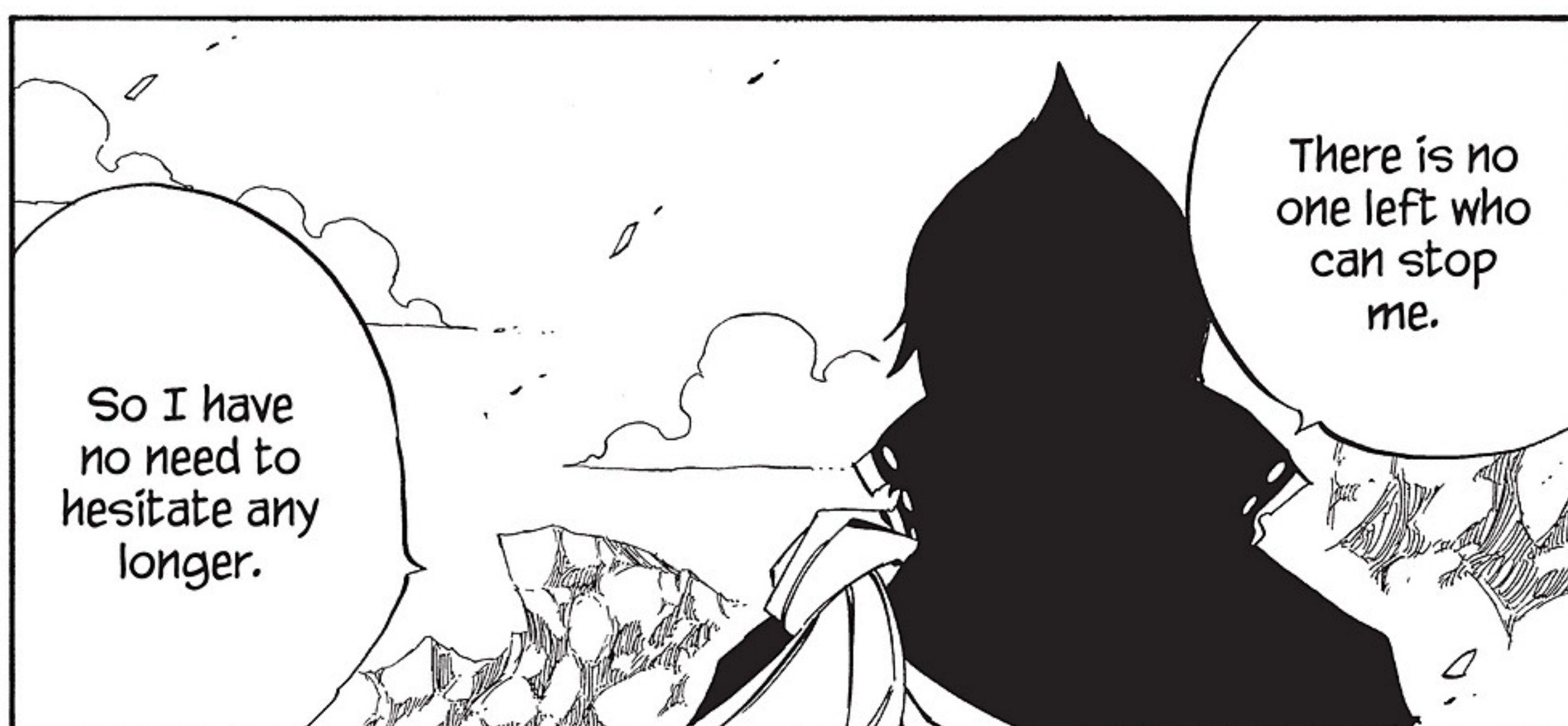
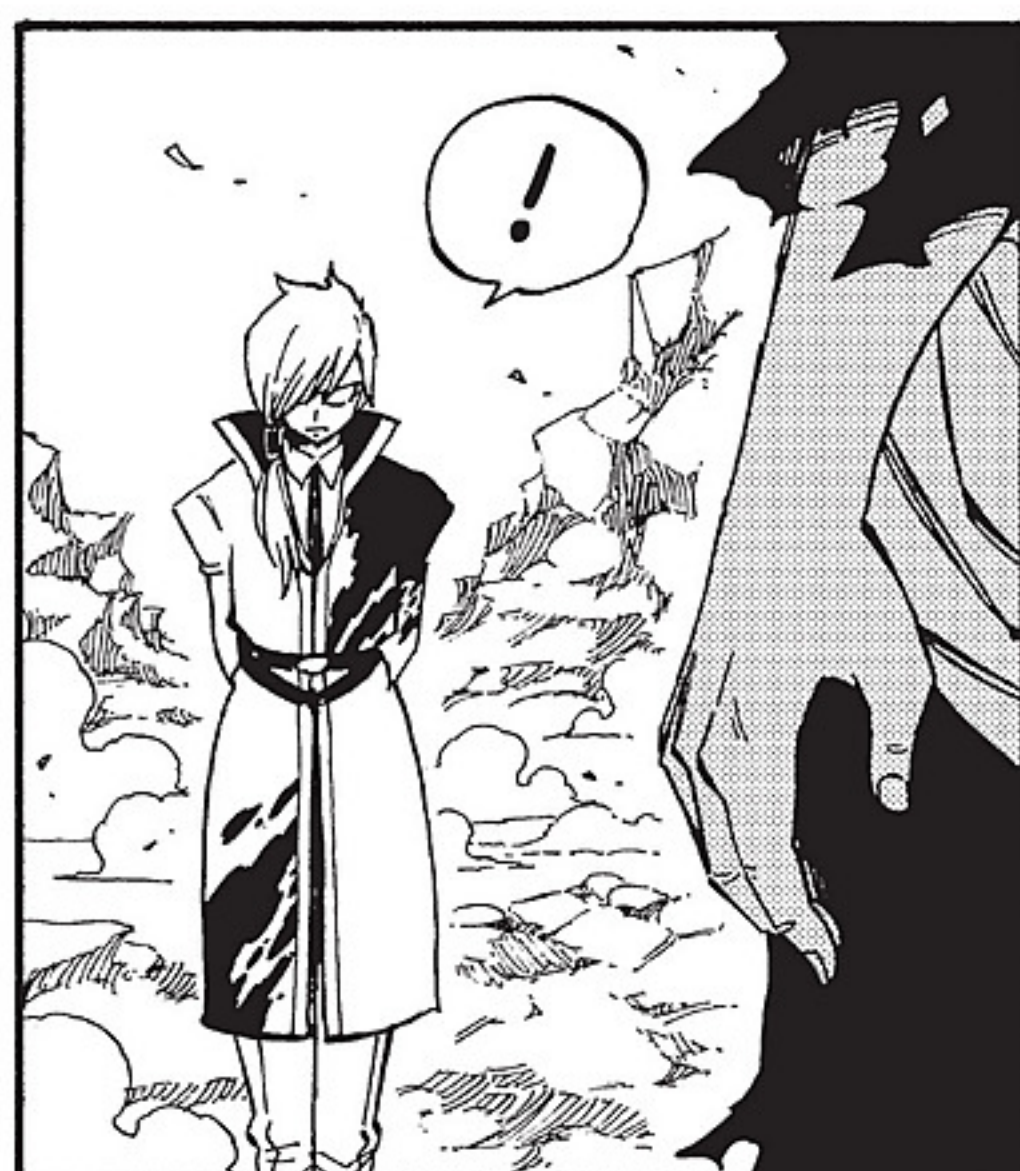
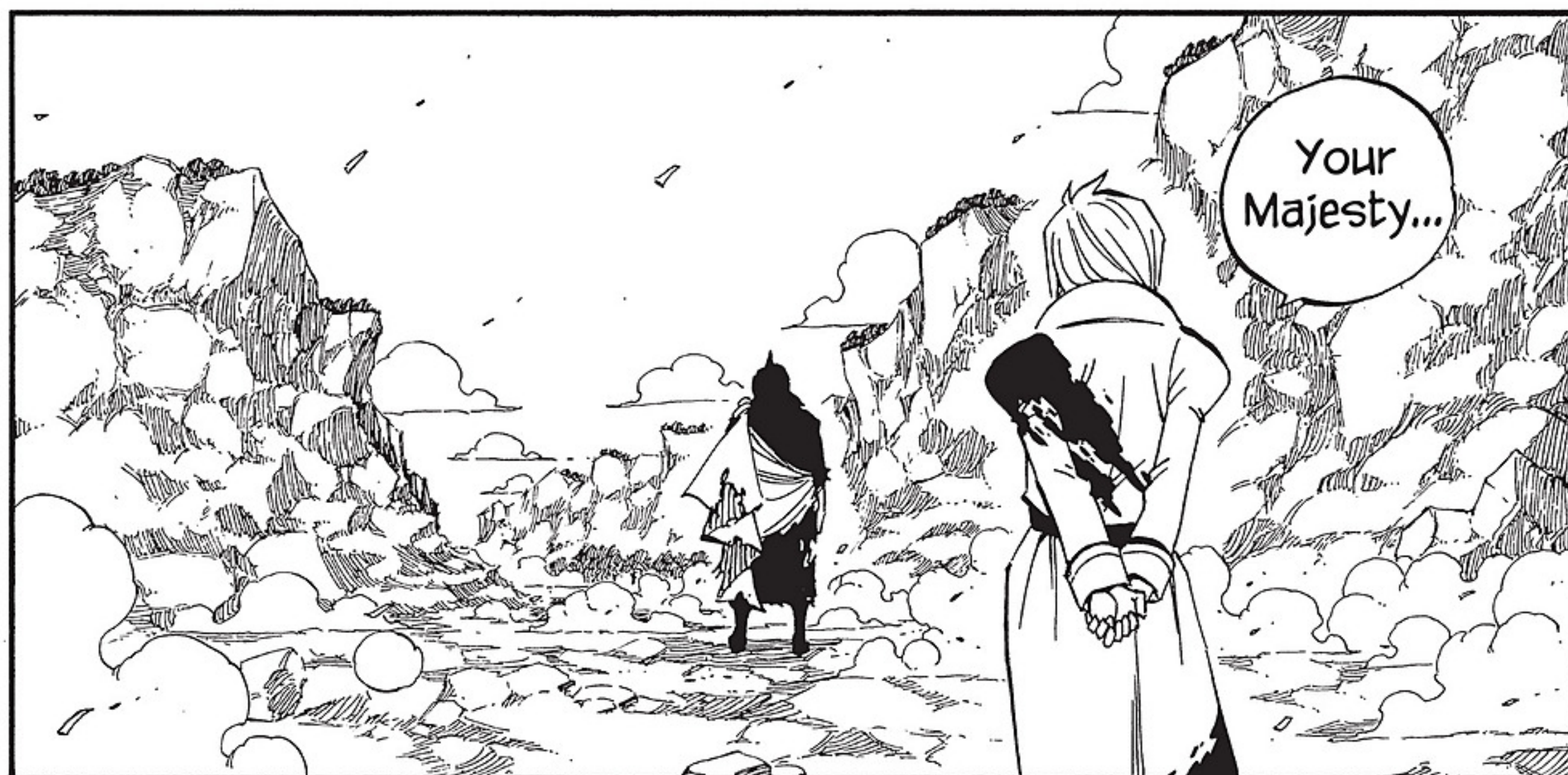


Now nothing can stop me...

Farewell, Natsu...

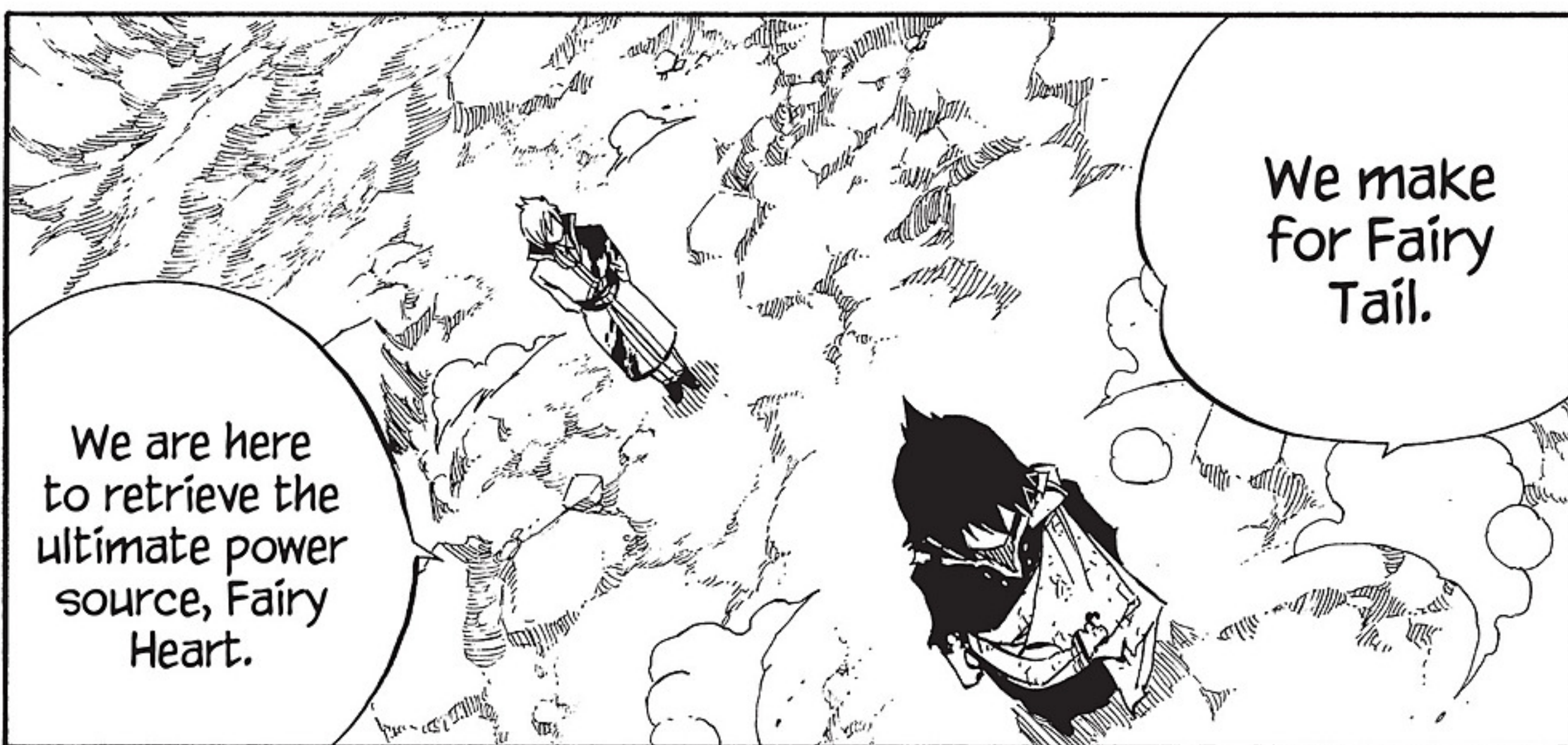
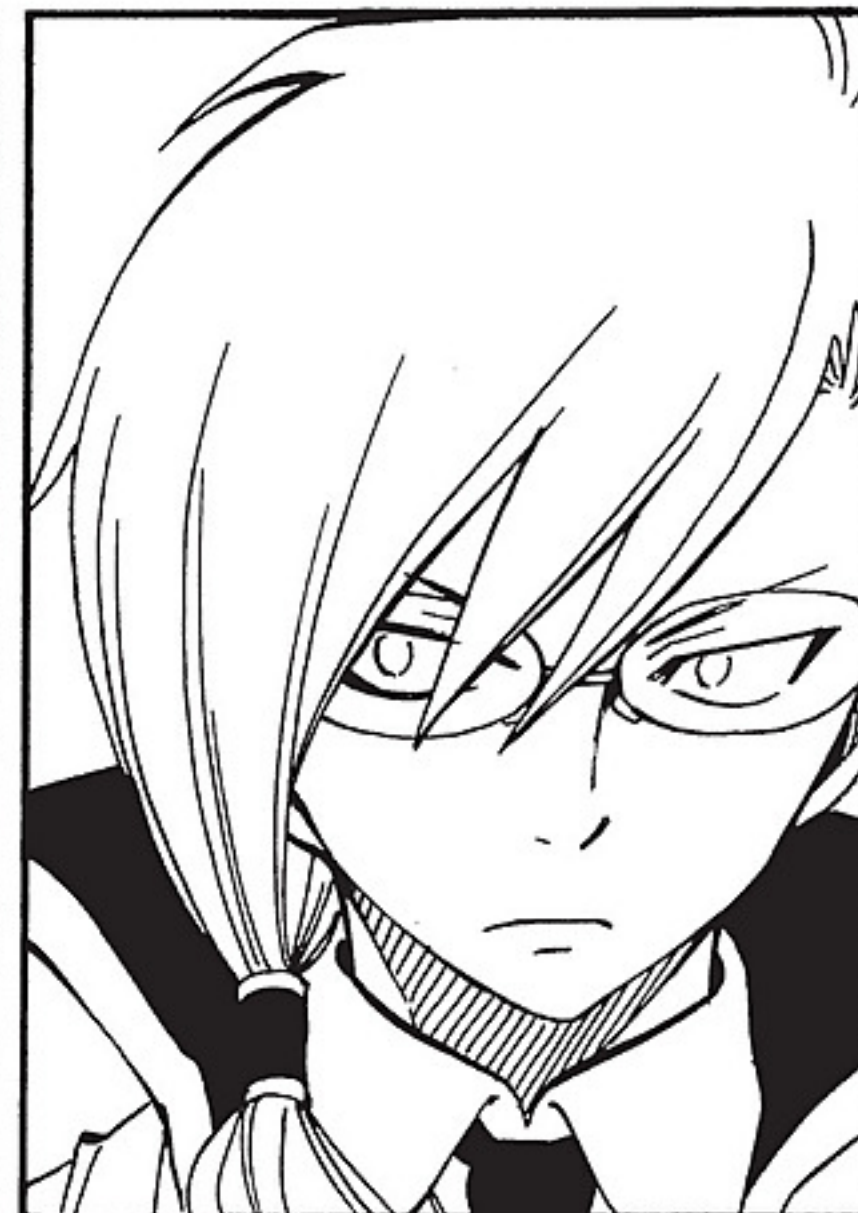






## Chapter 466: Assassin









Something  
more befitting  
of an emperor.





Happy.  
How're your  
paws?



Aye. Just  
fine.

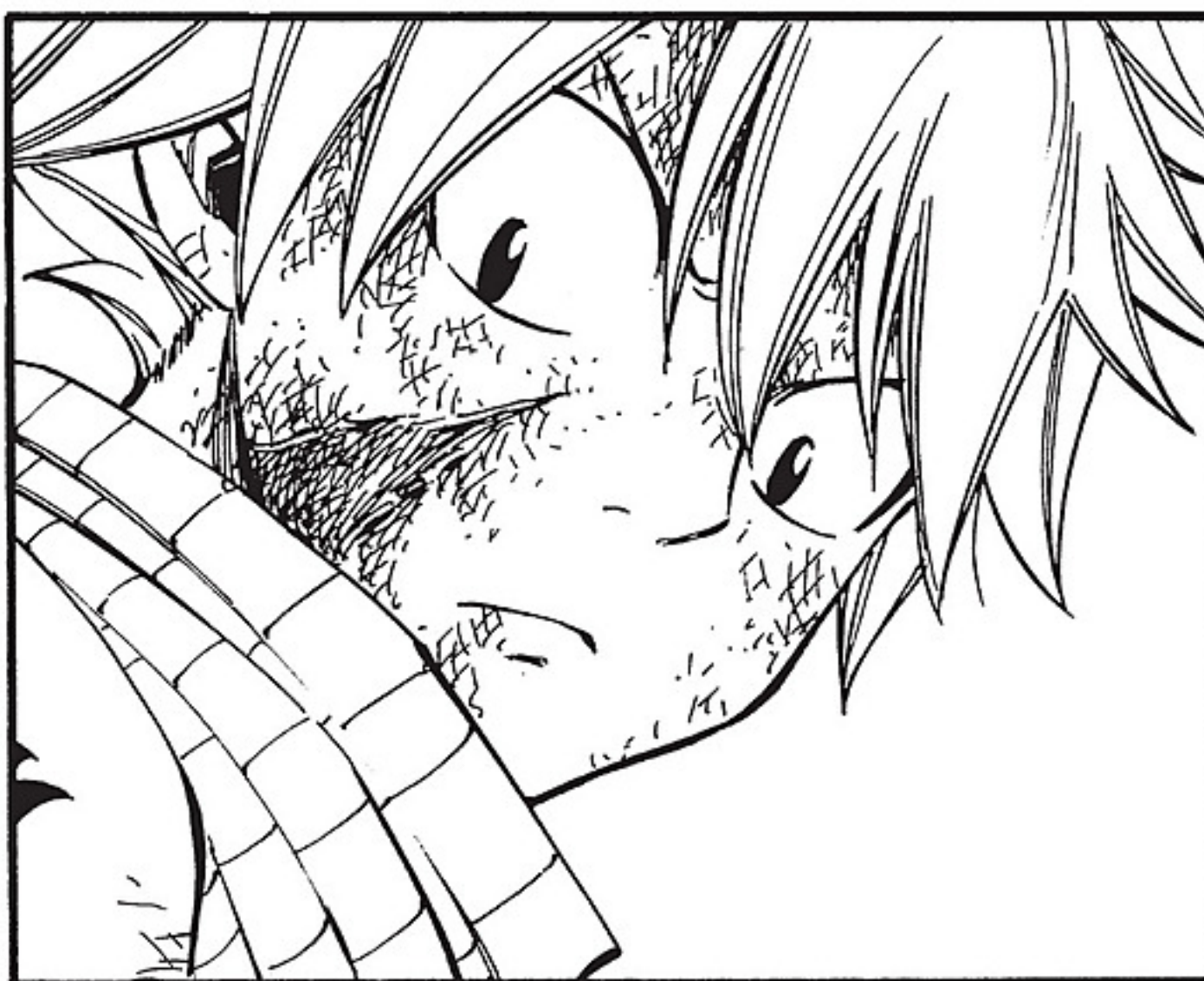
はし  
はし  
SPLISH

SPLISH  
はし  
はし

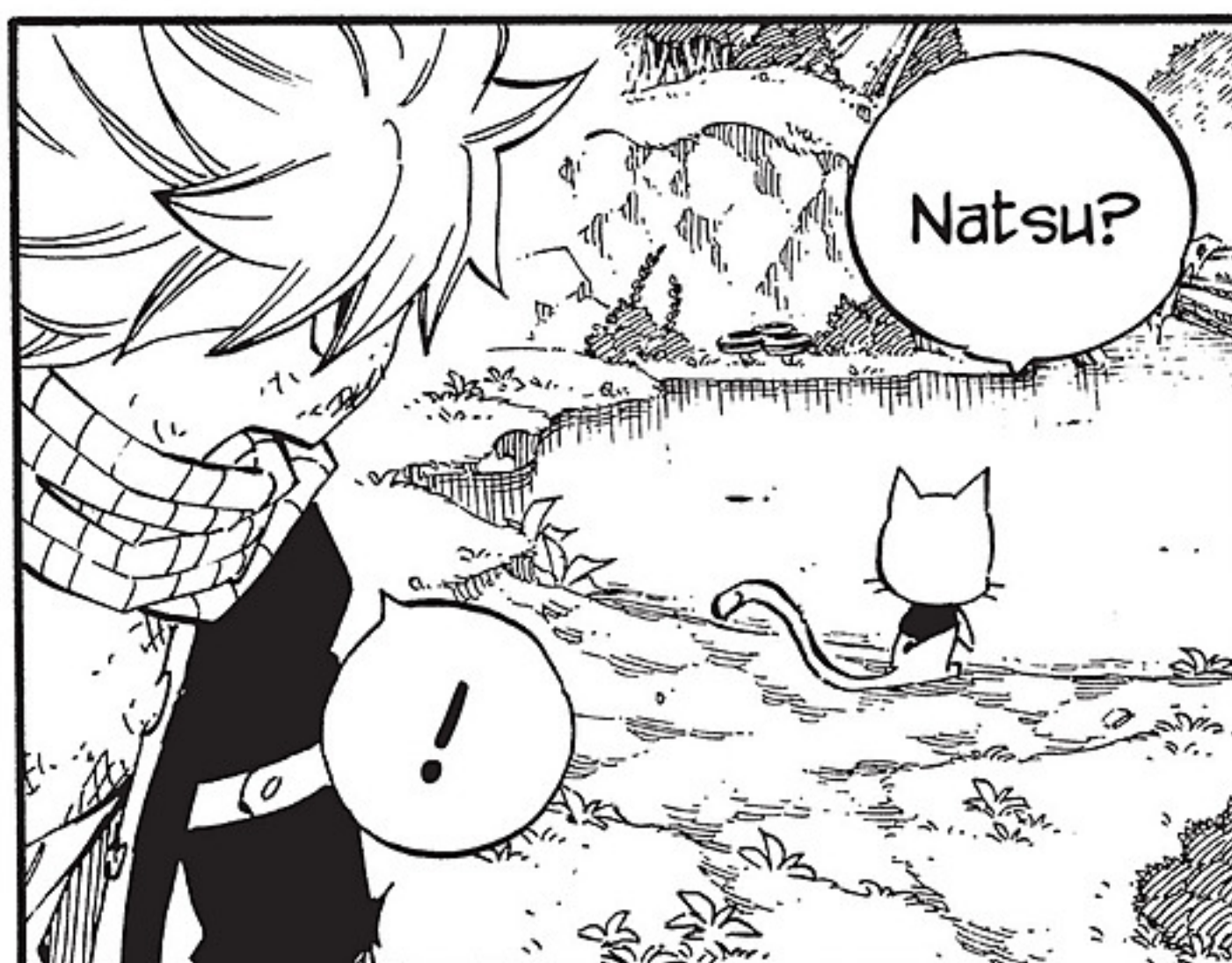


"Etherious Natsu  
Dragneel..."

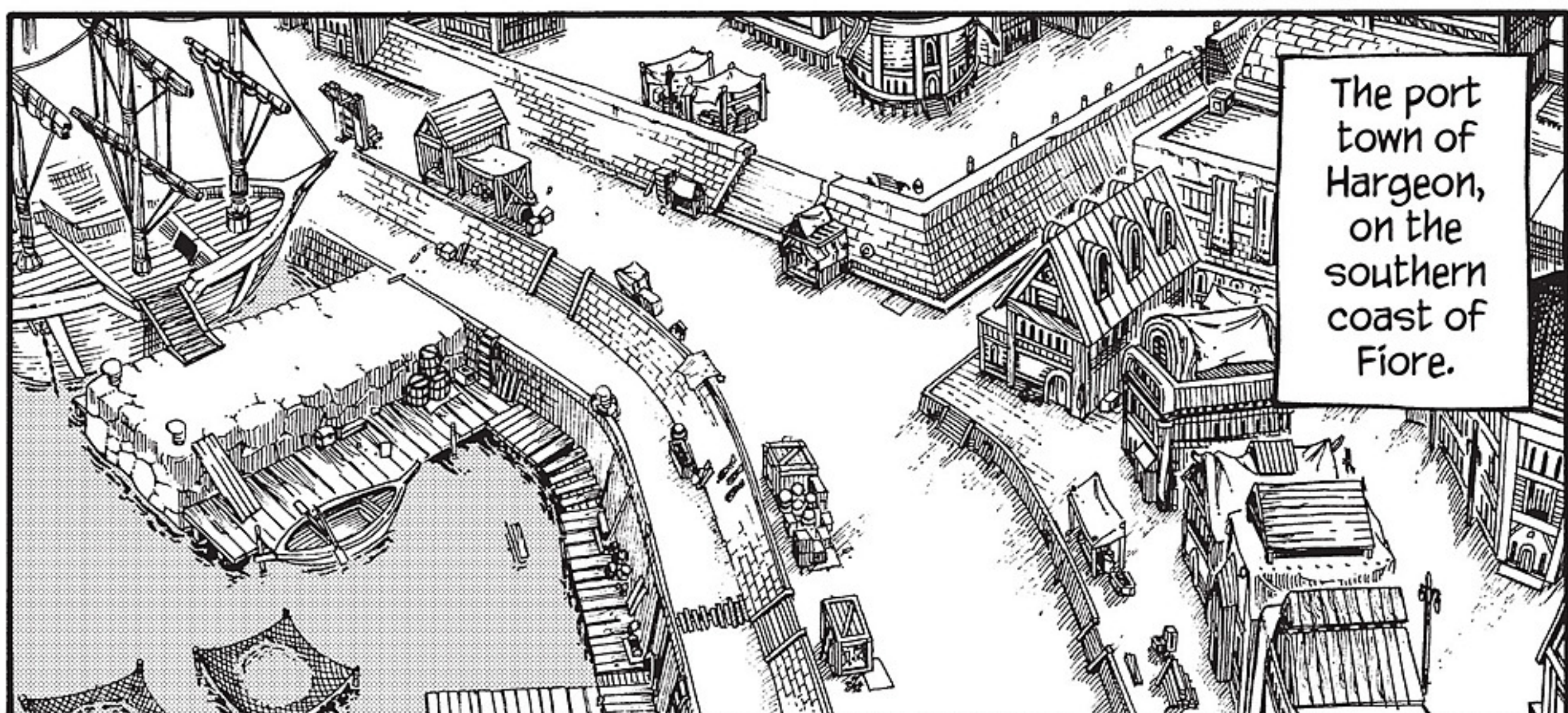
"...E.N.D..."







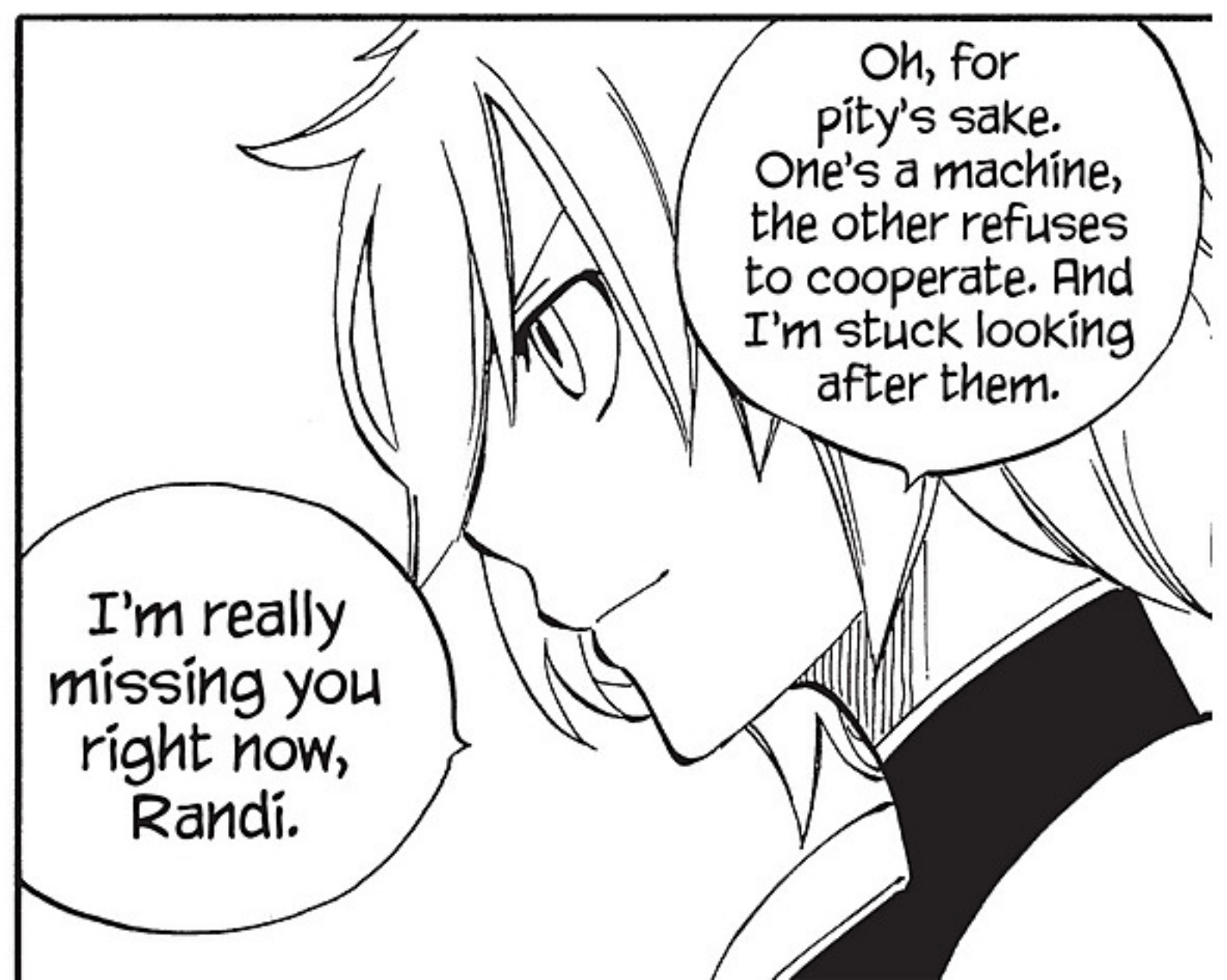
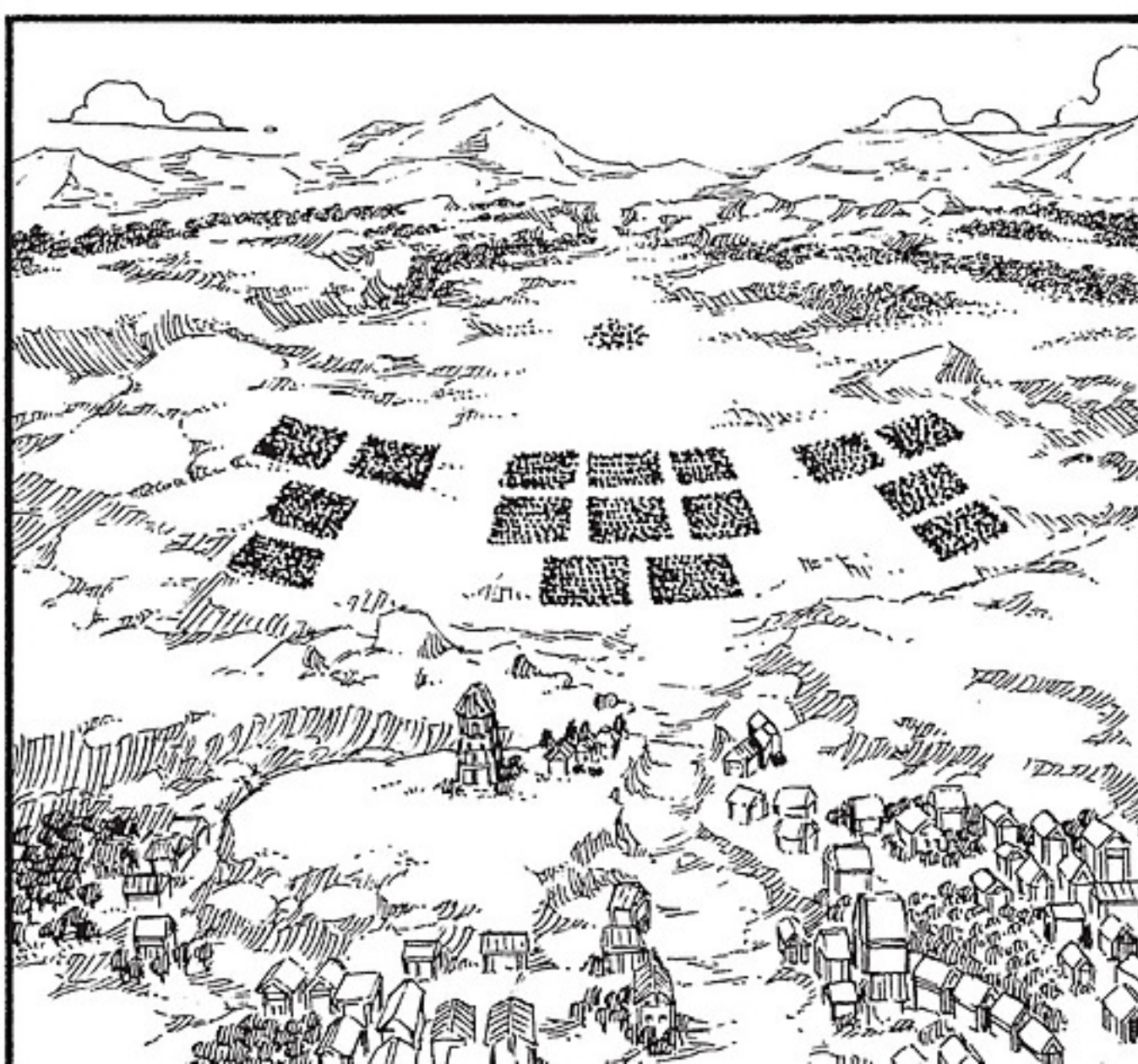
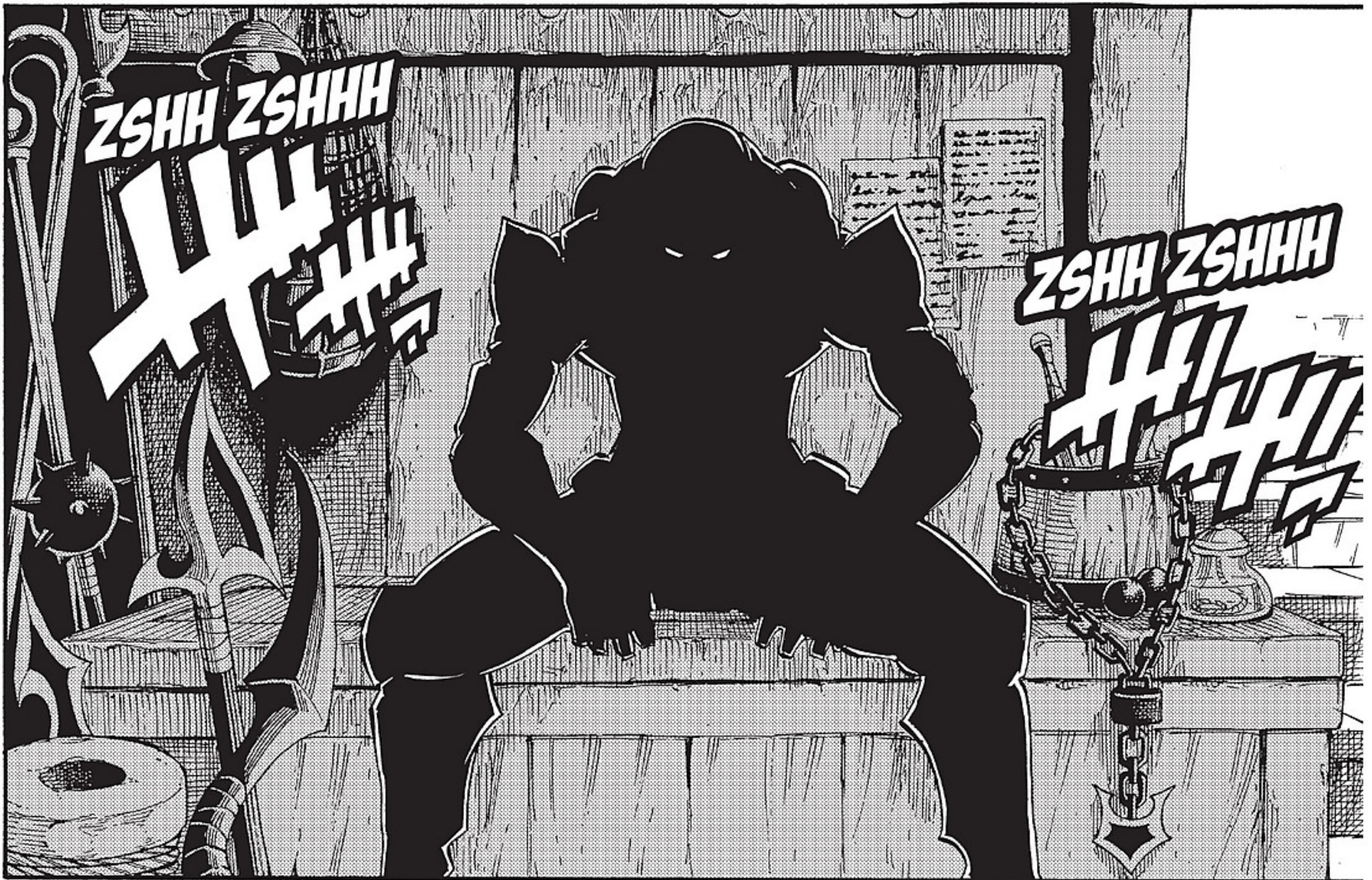
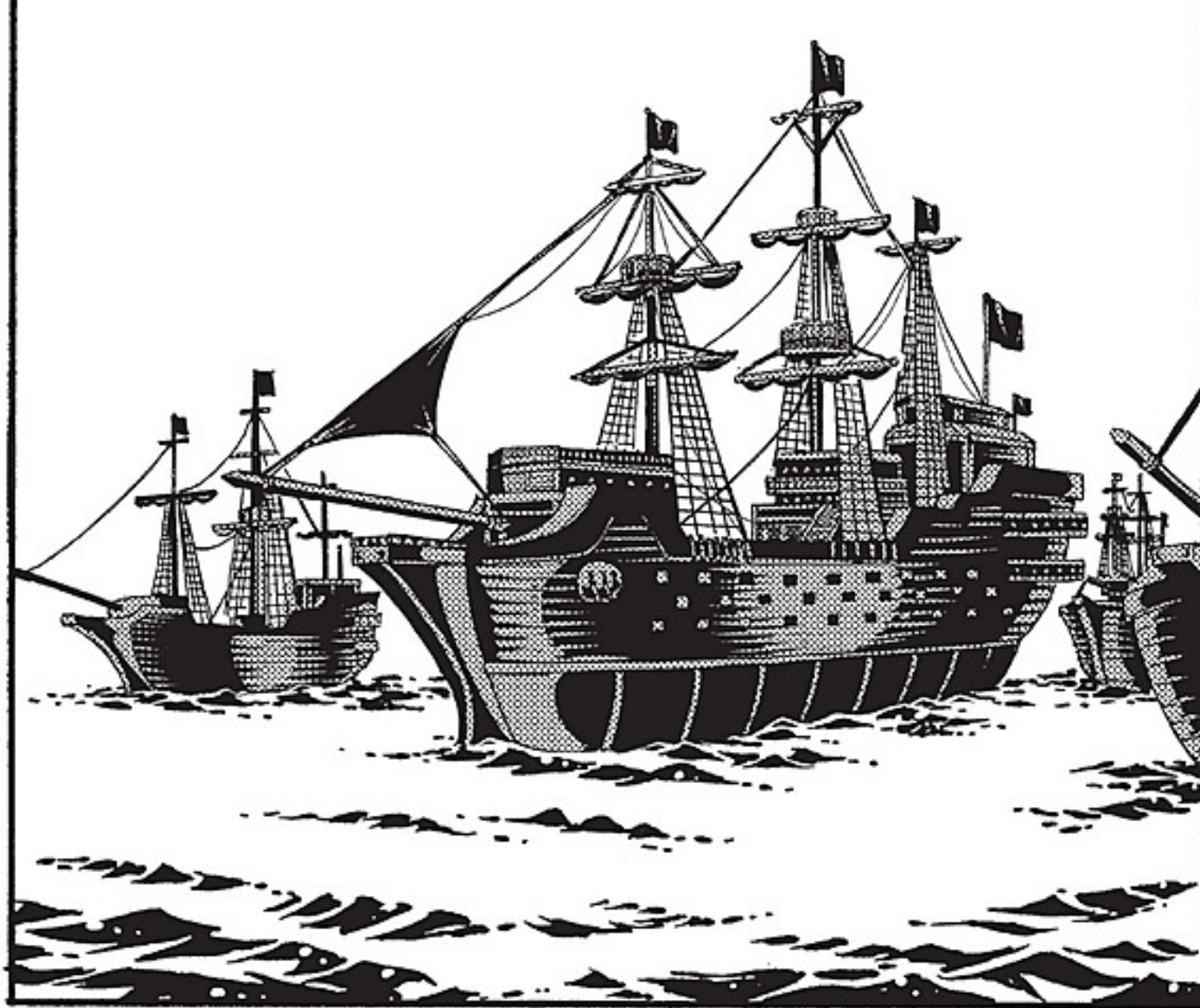








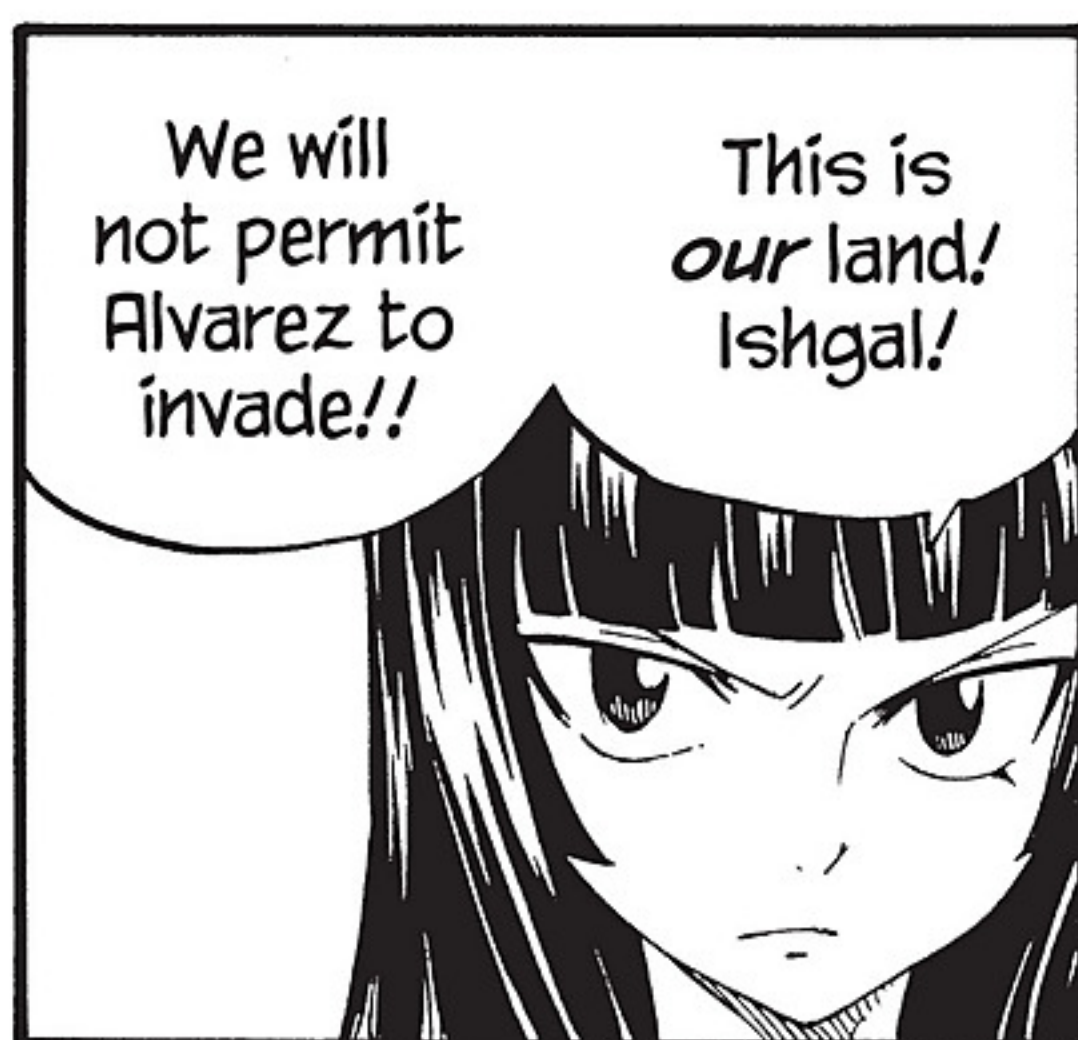
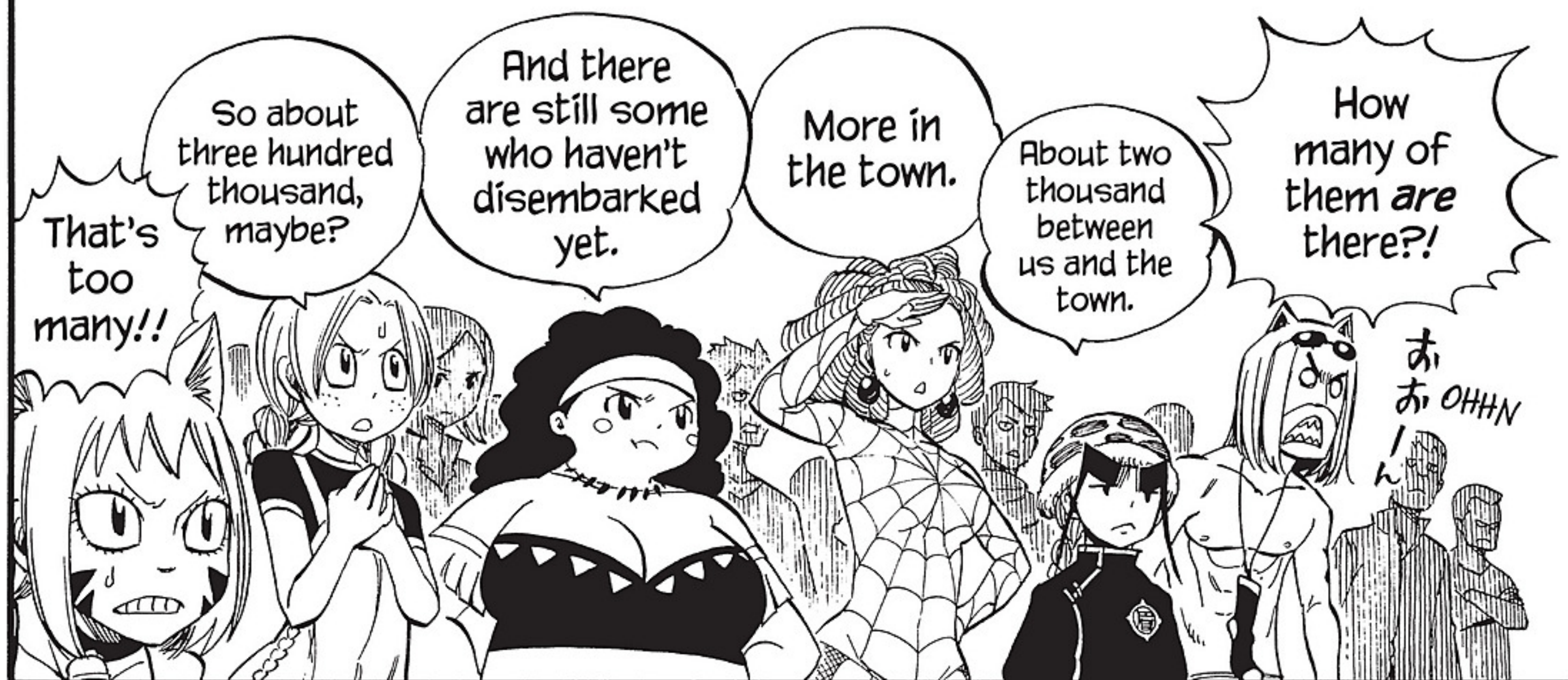




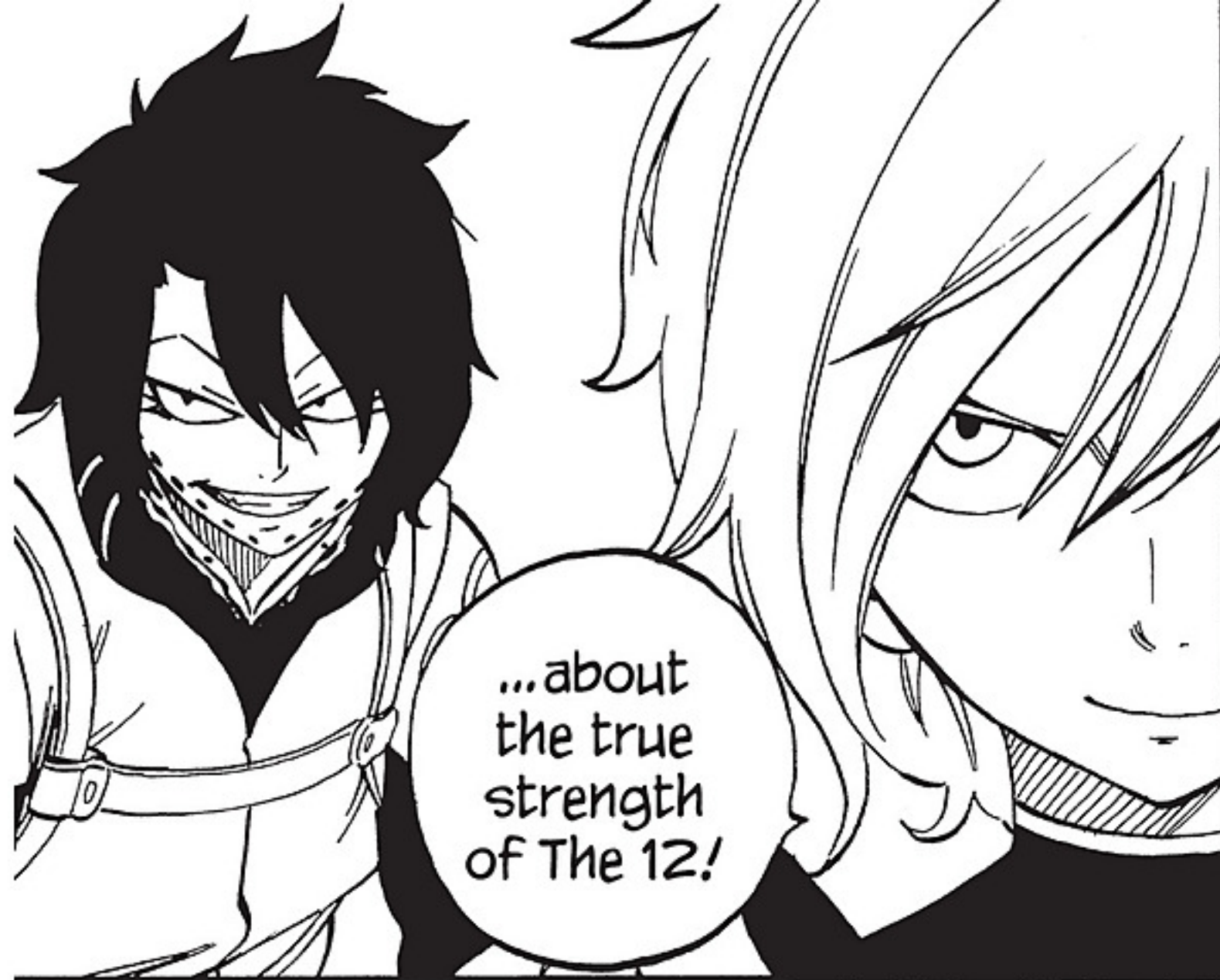










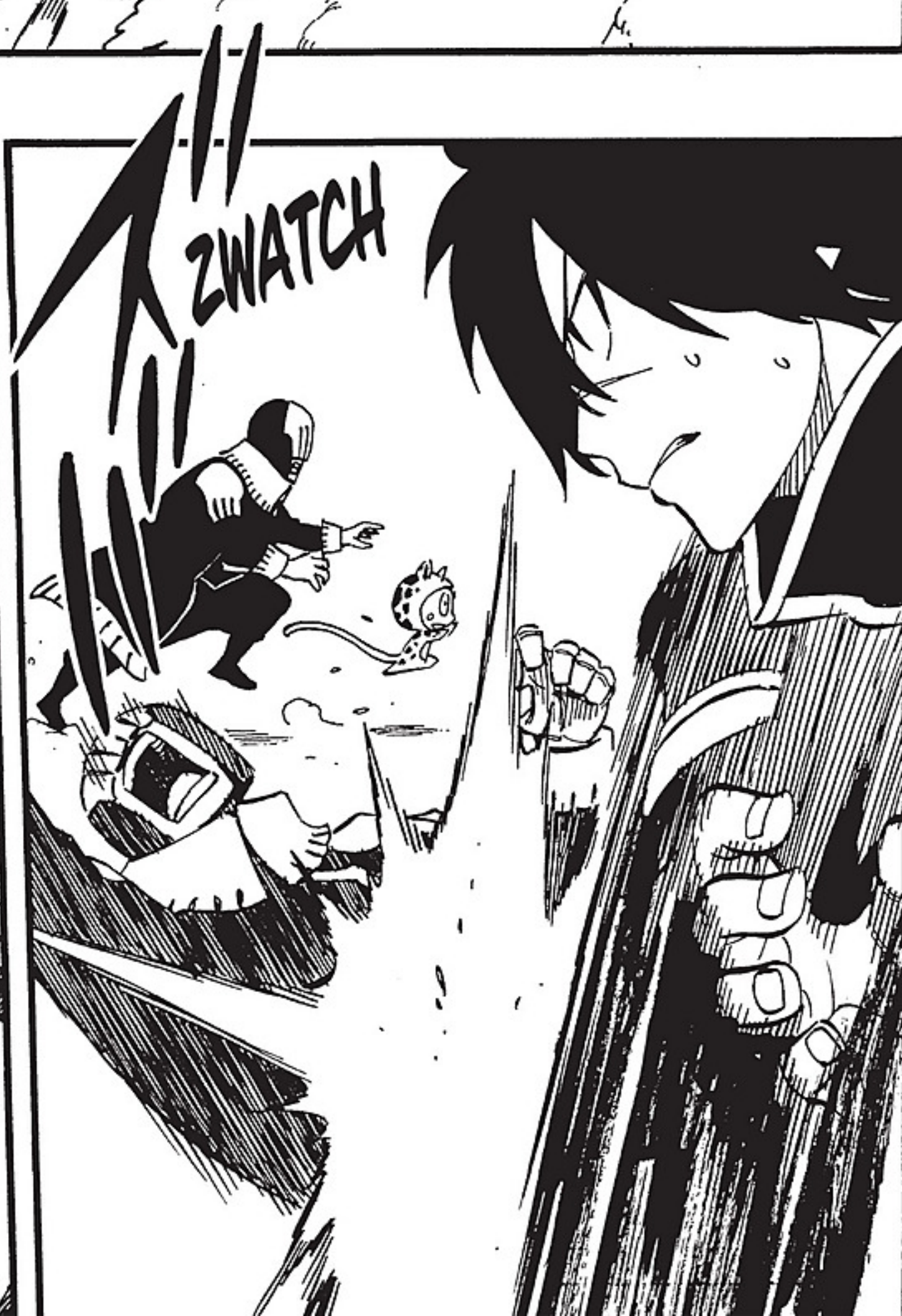


...about  
the true  
strength  
of The 12!

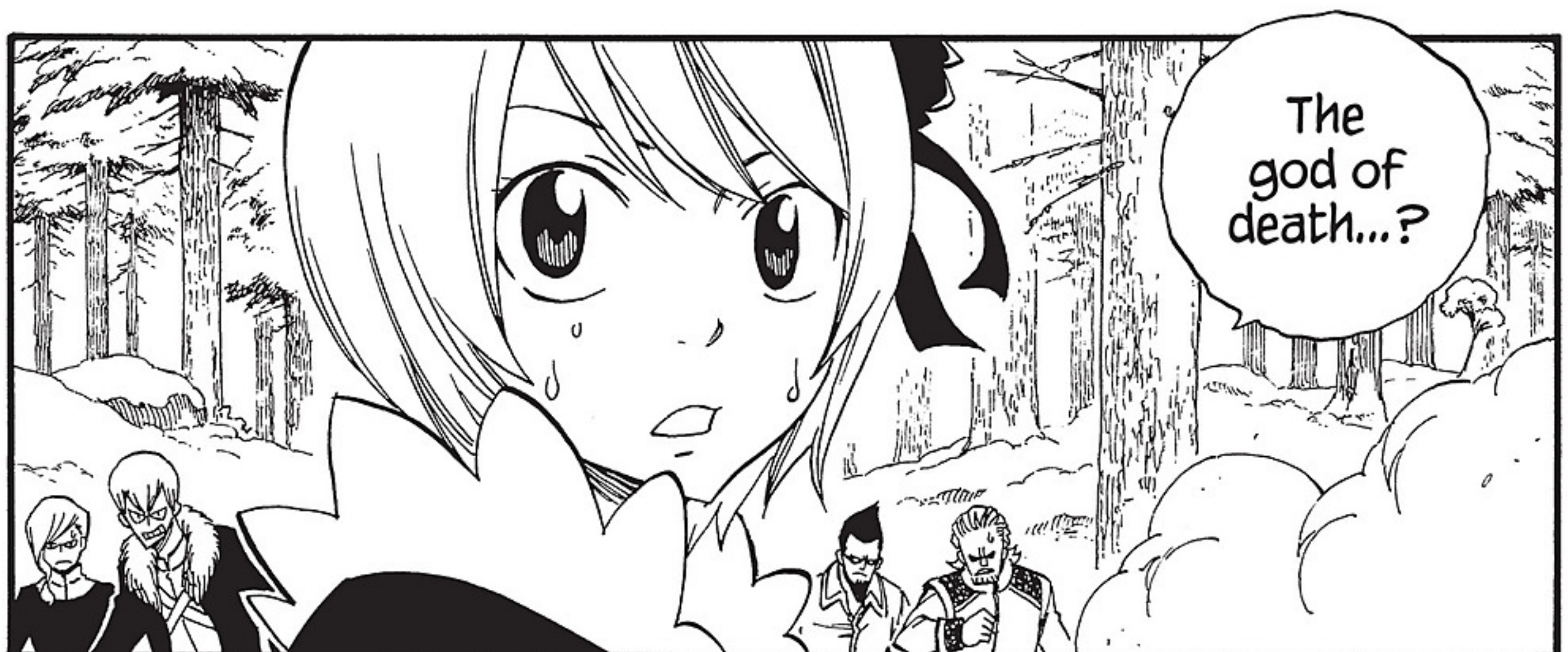
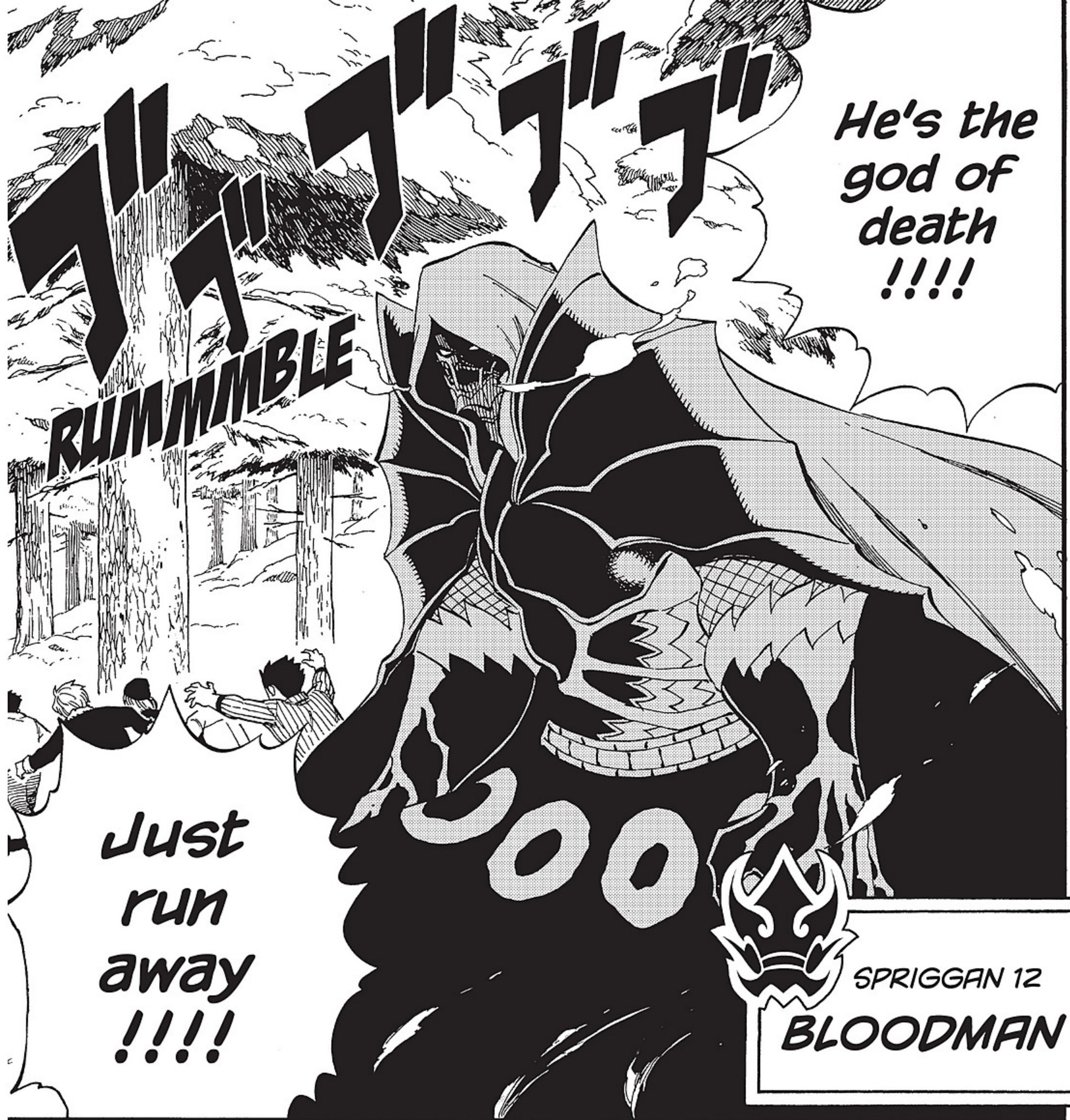
These  
arrogant  
fools need to  
be taught a  
lesson...



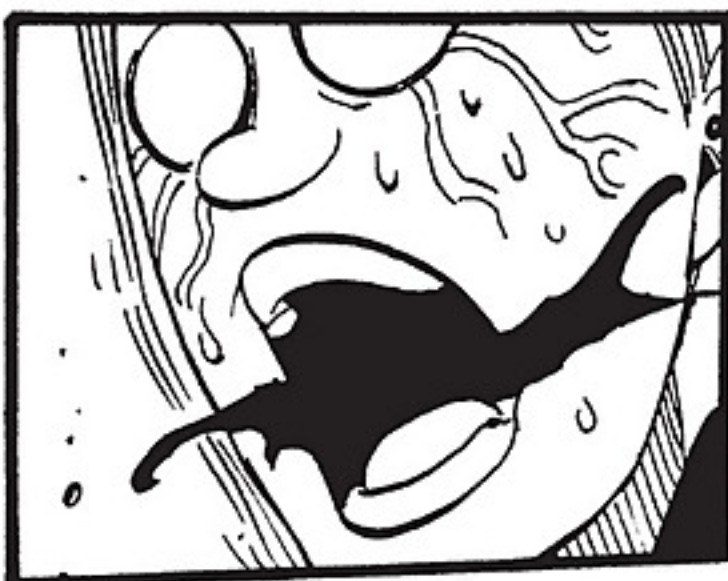
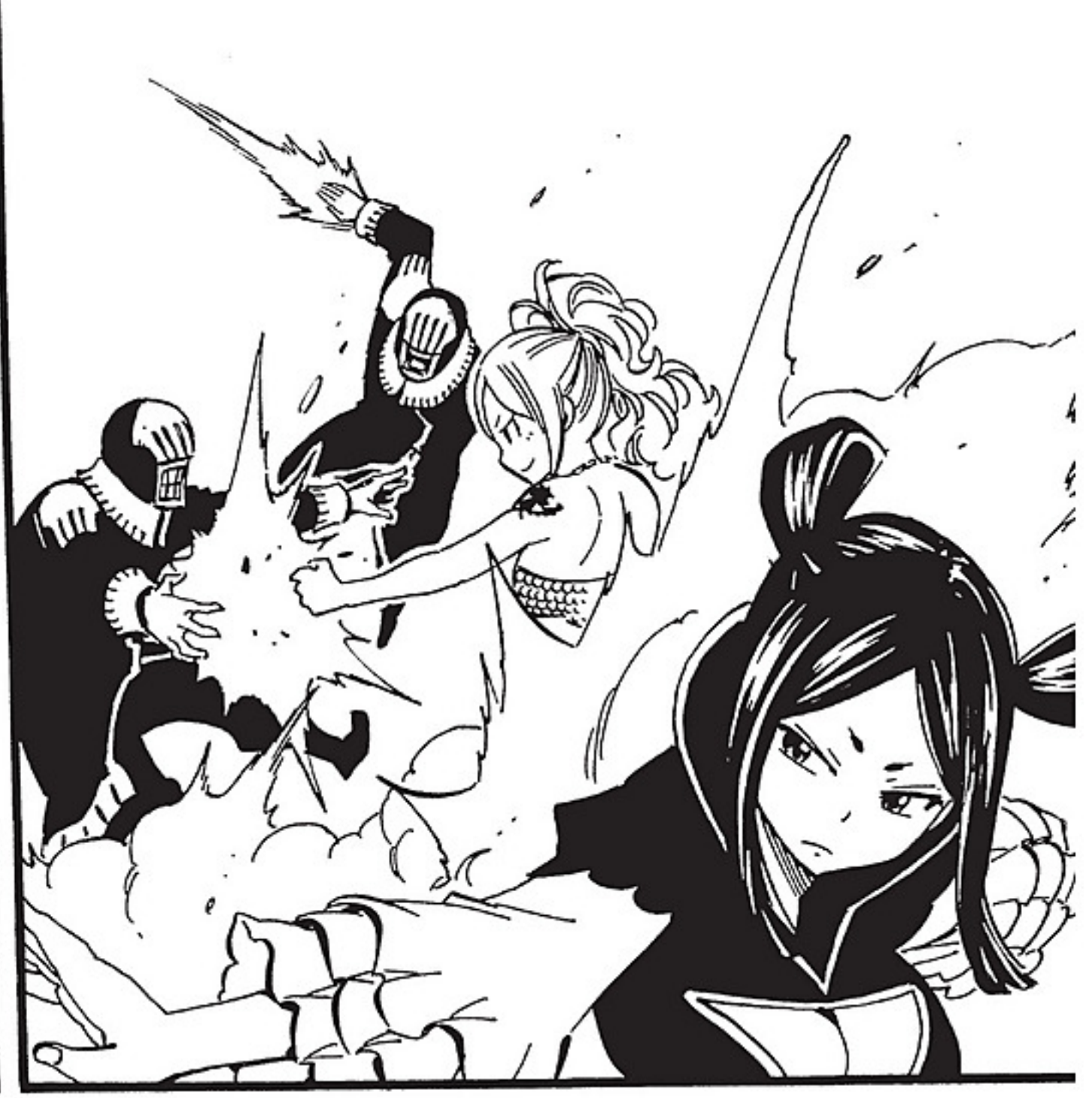
Northern  
Fiore...



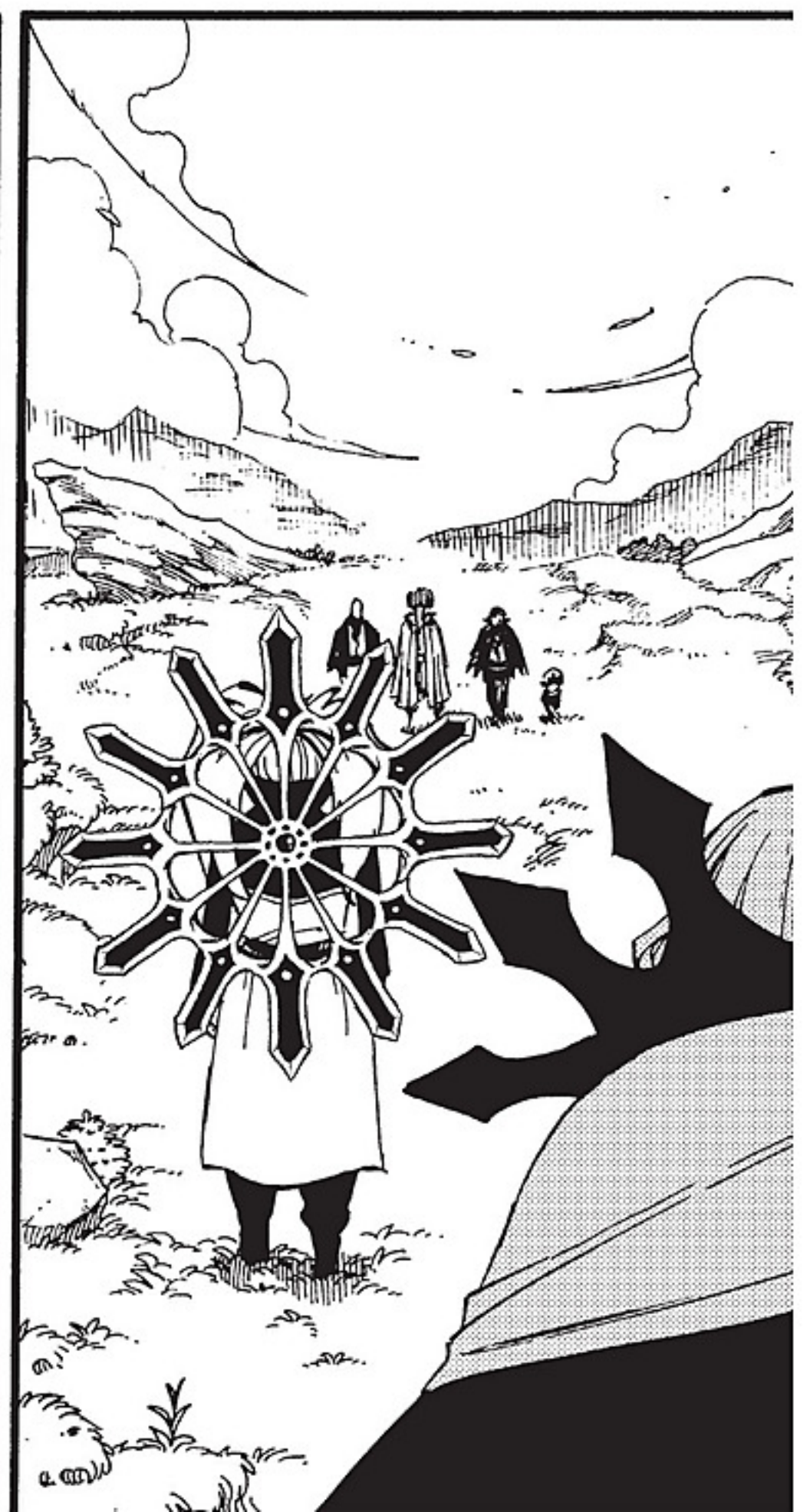
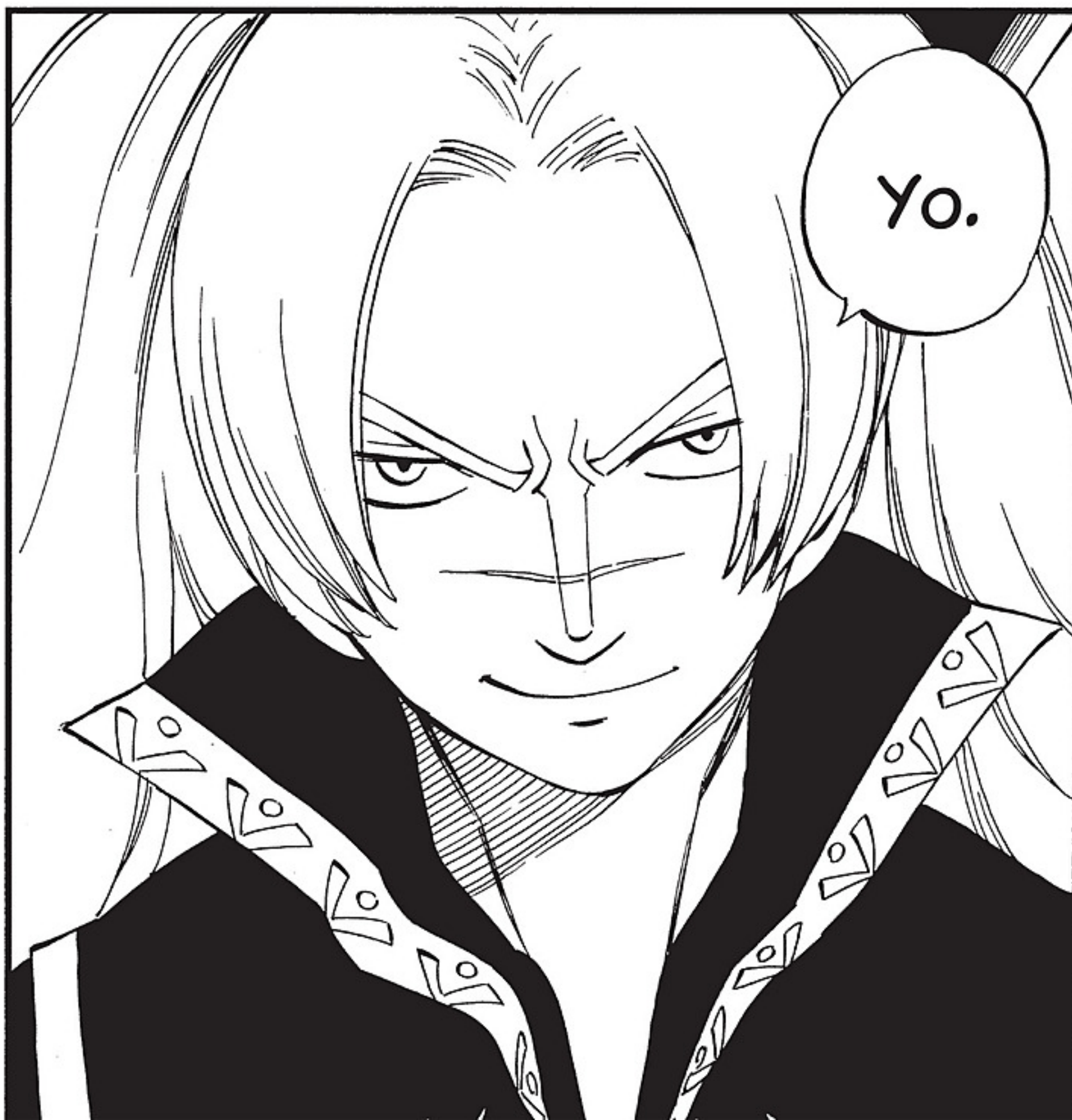
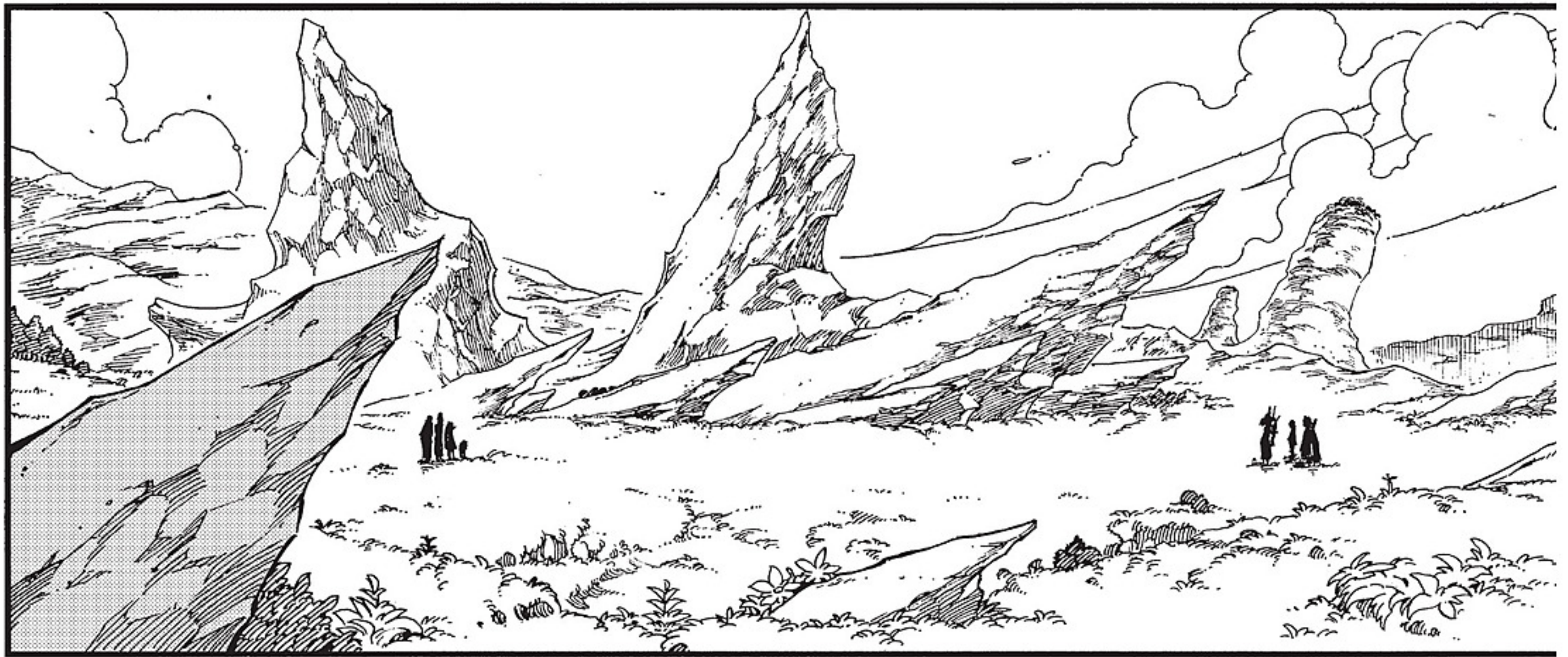
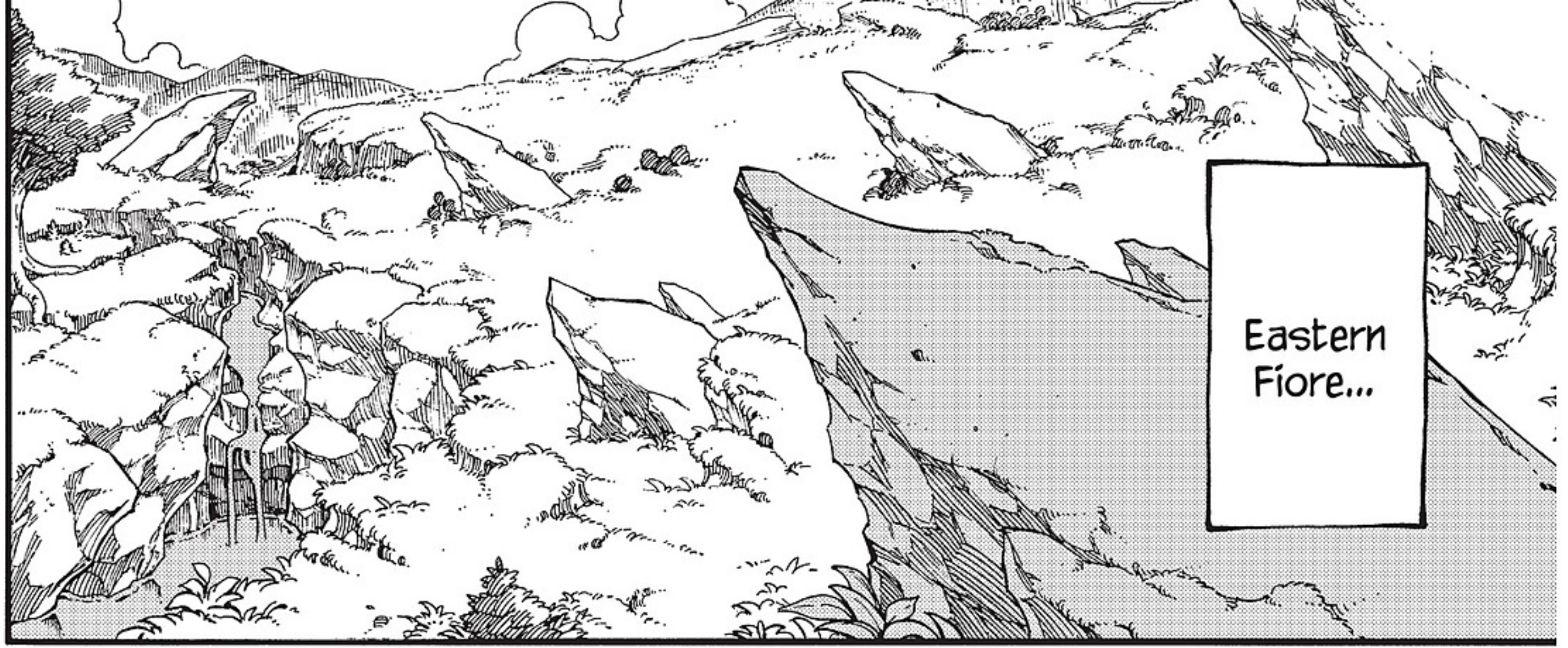




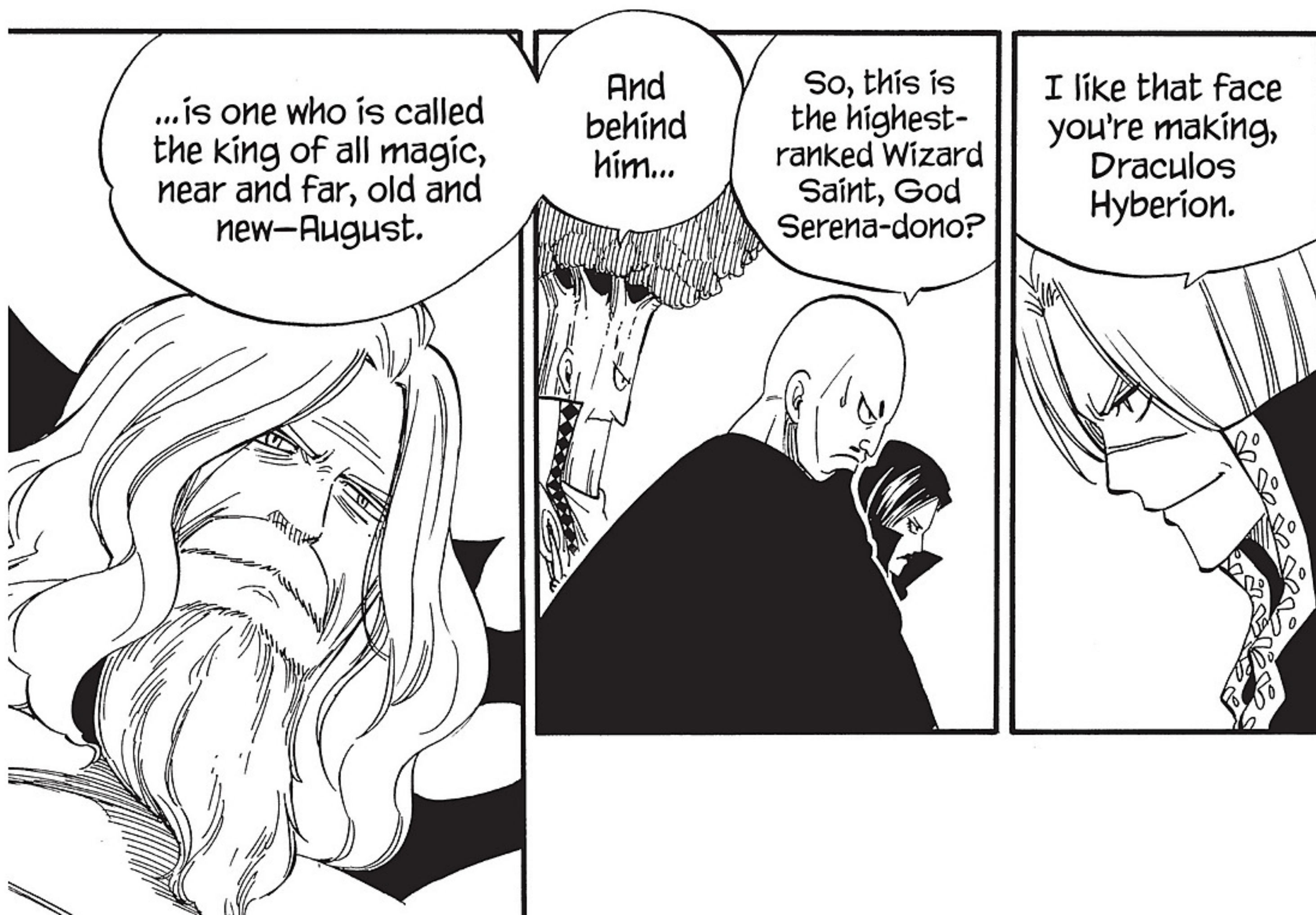
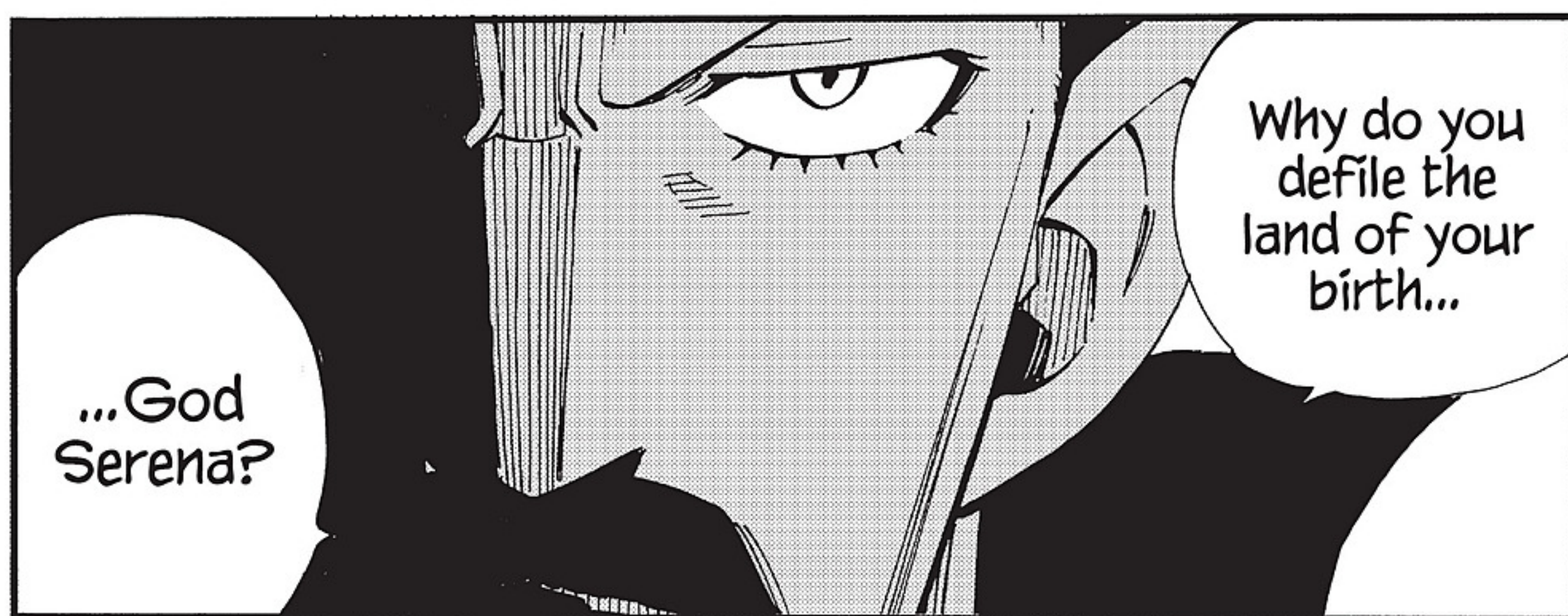
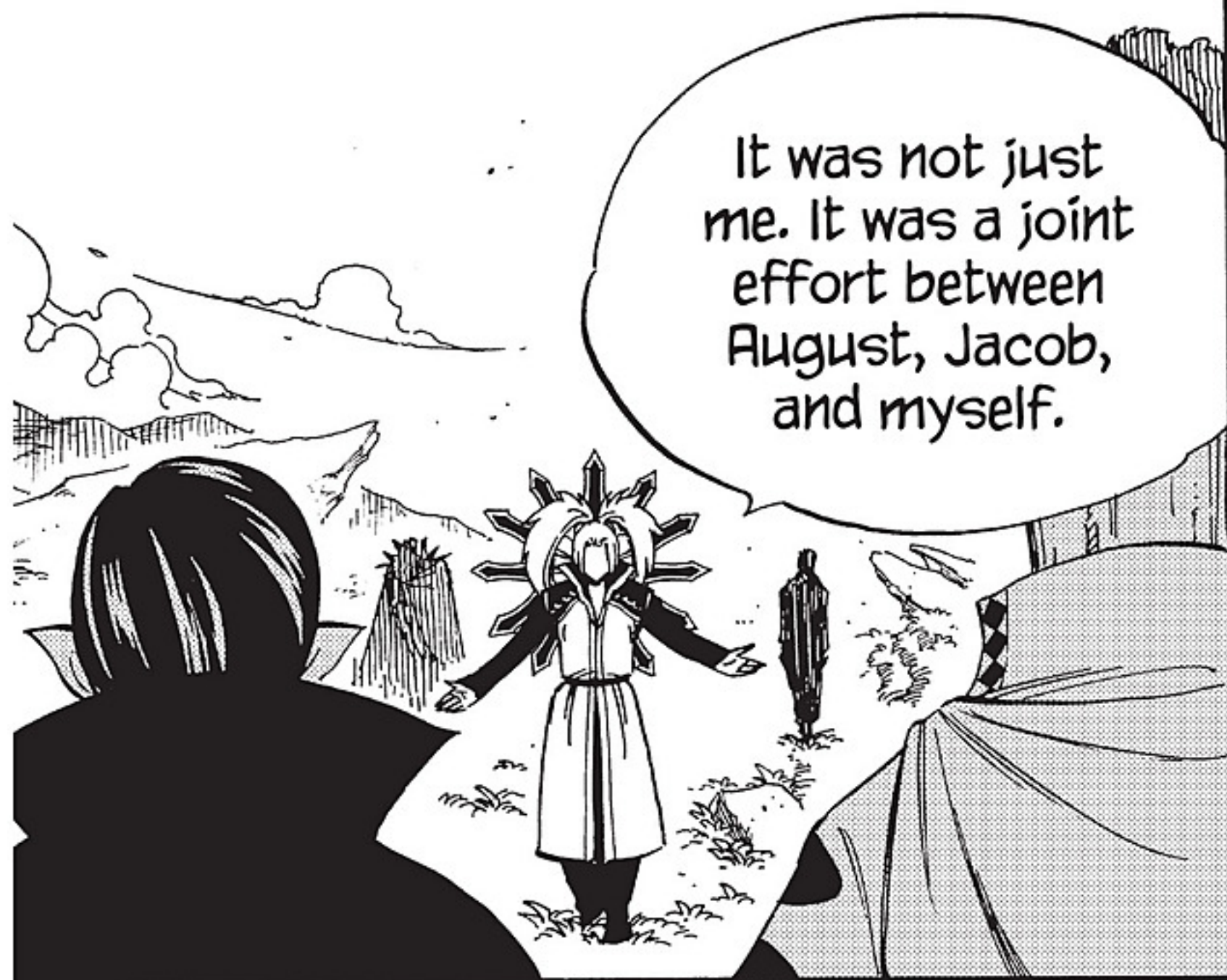




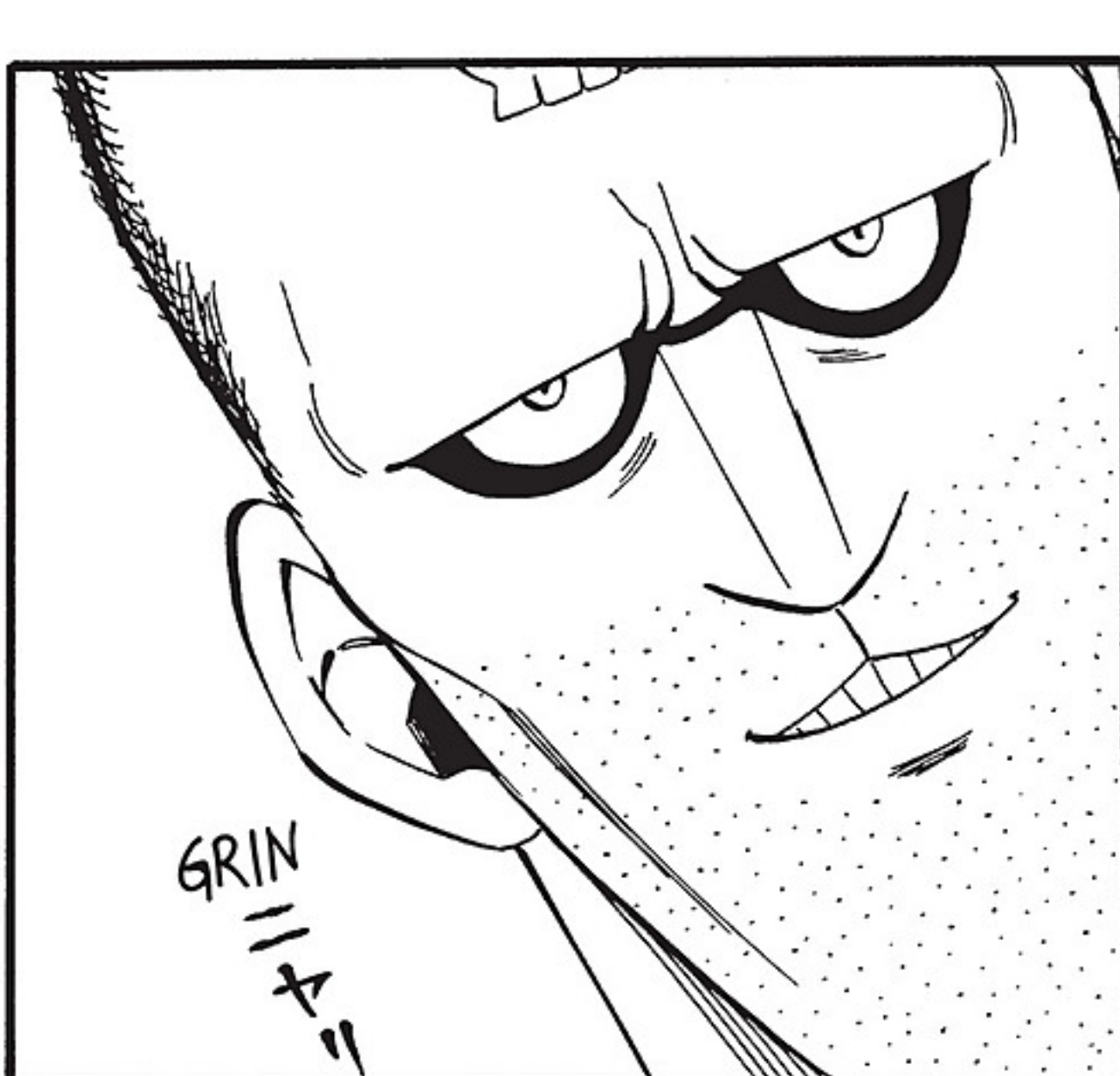




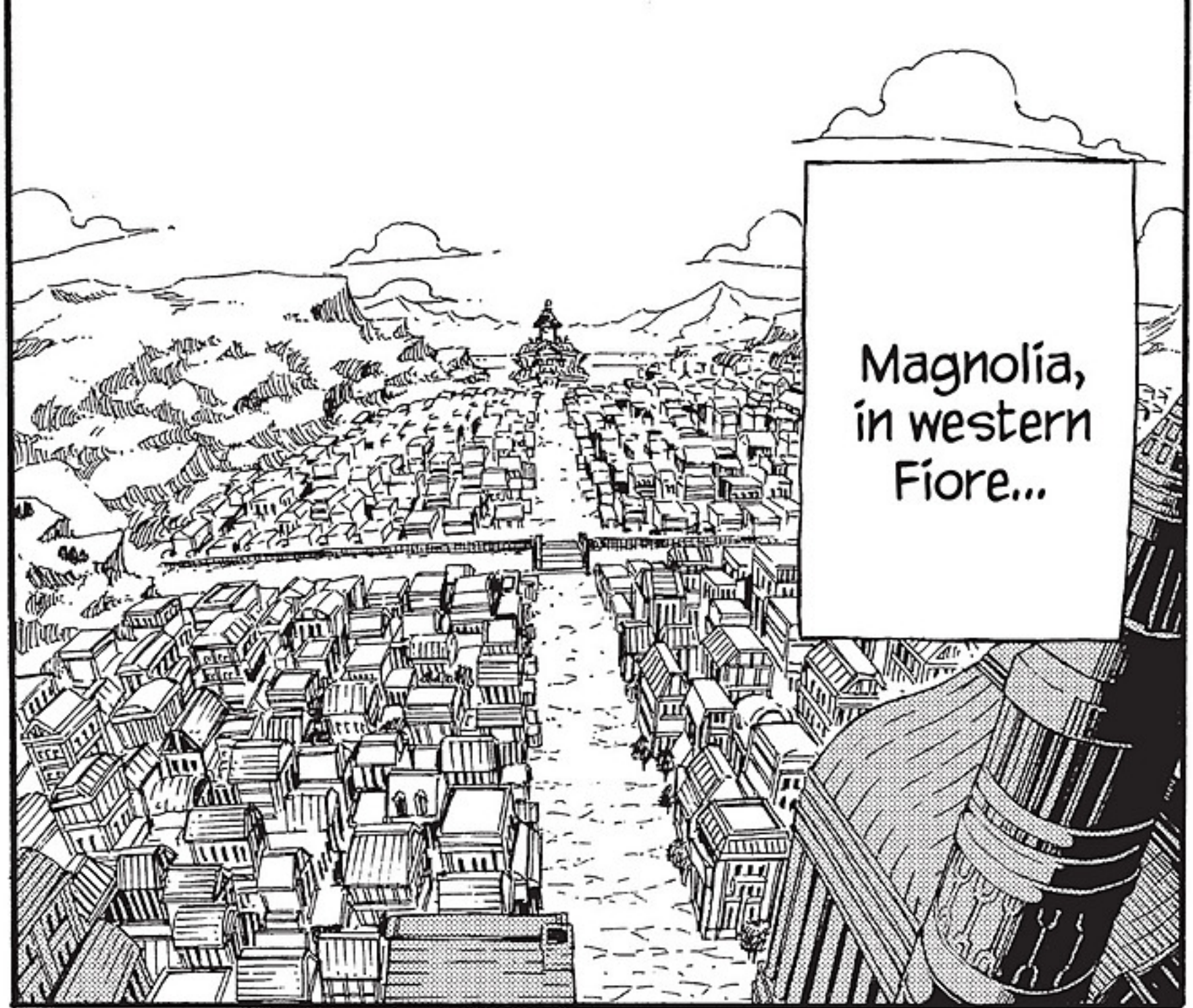








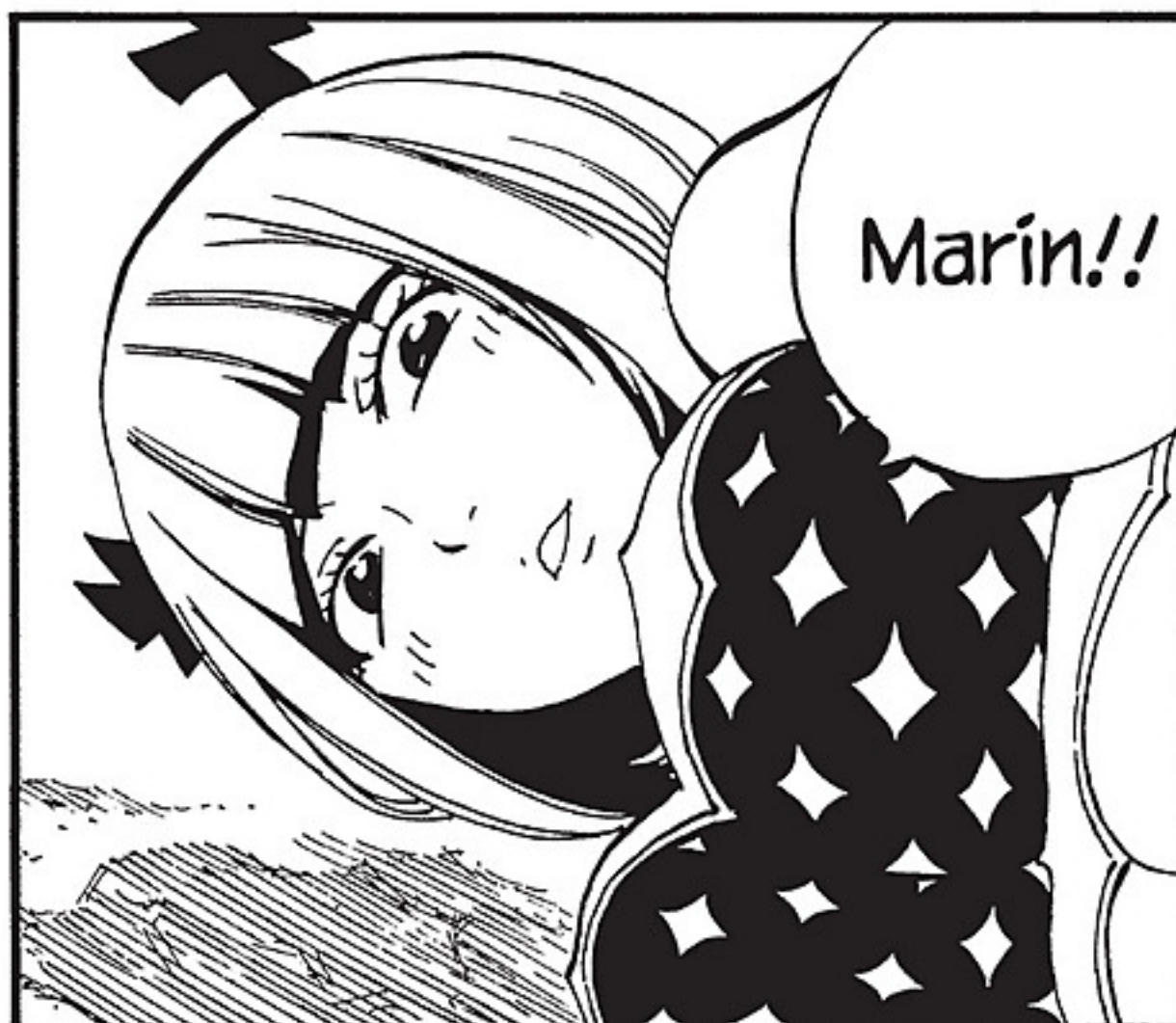




Magnolia,  
in western  
Fiore...



Brandish-  
sama...  
WHISPER  
WHISPER



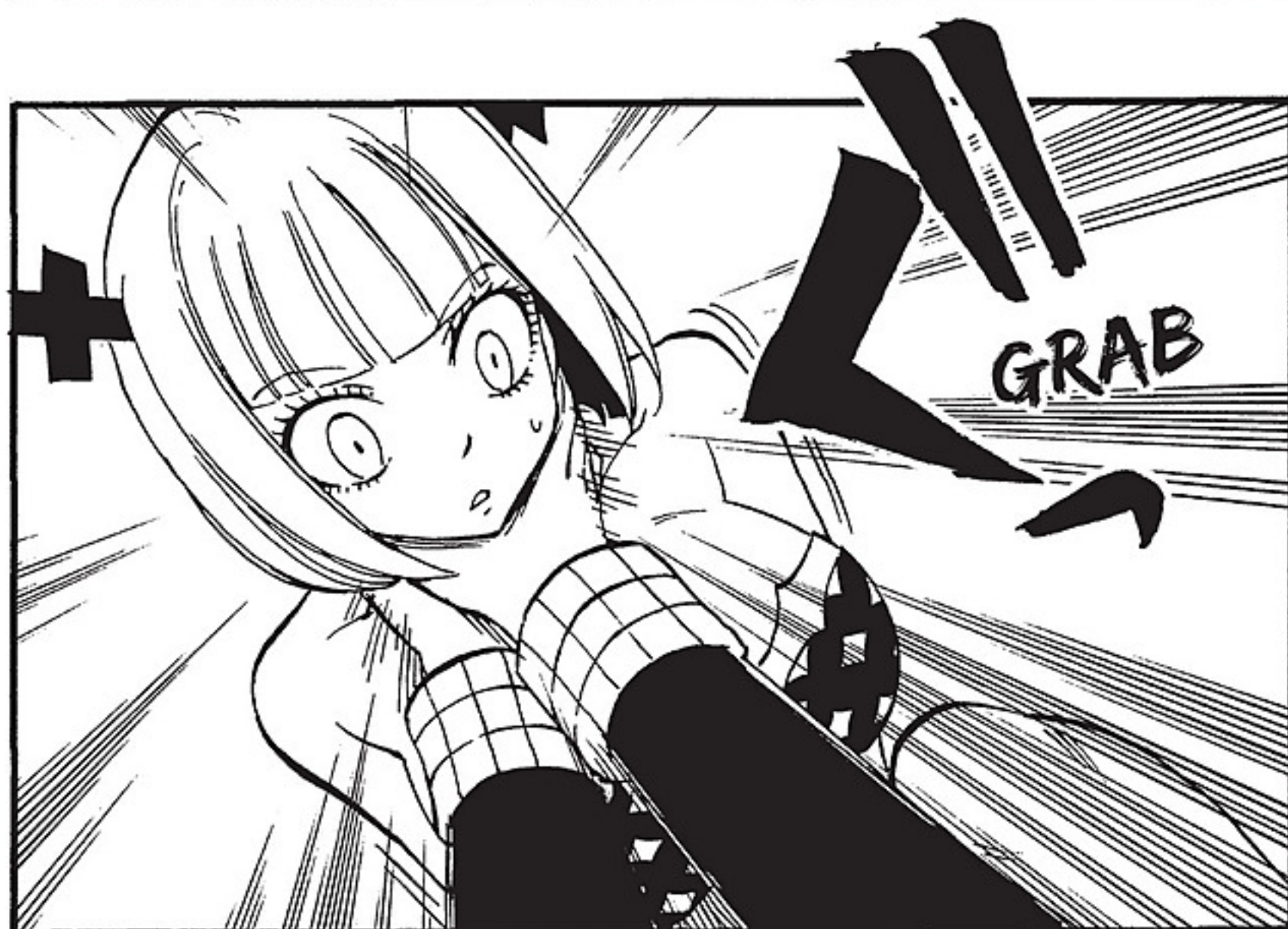
Marin!!



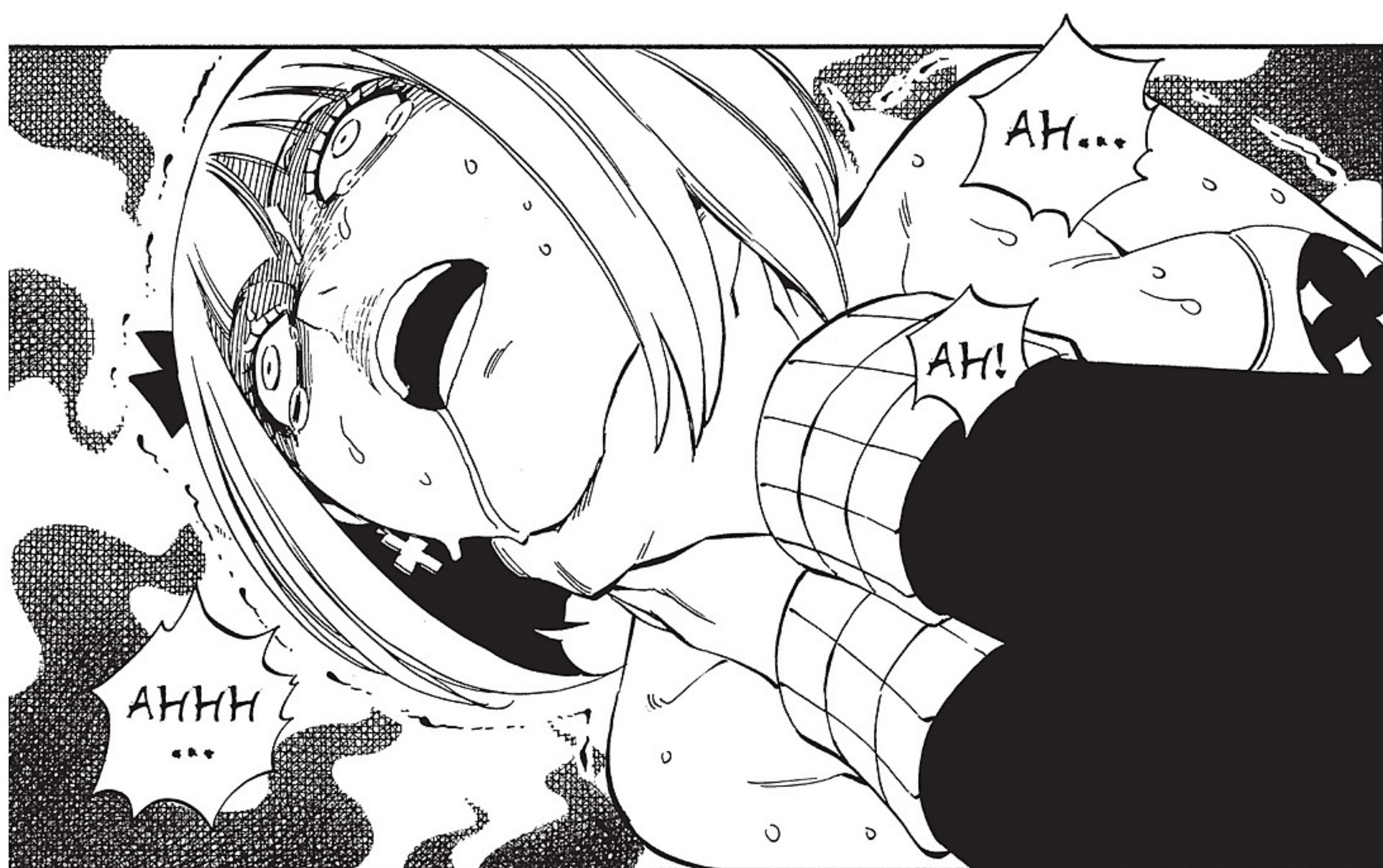
Found  
you!

TA-DAAH













 **FAIRYTAIL**



# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

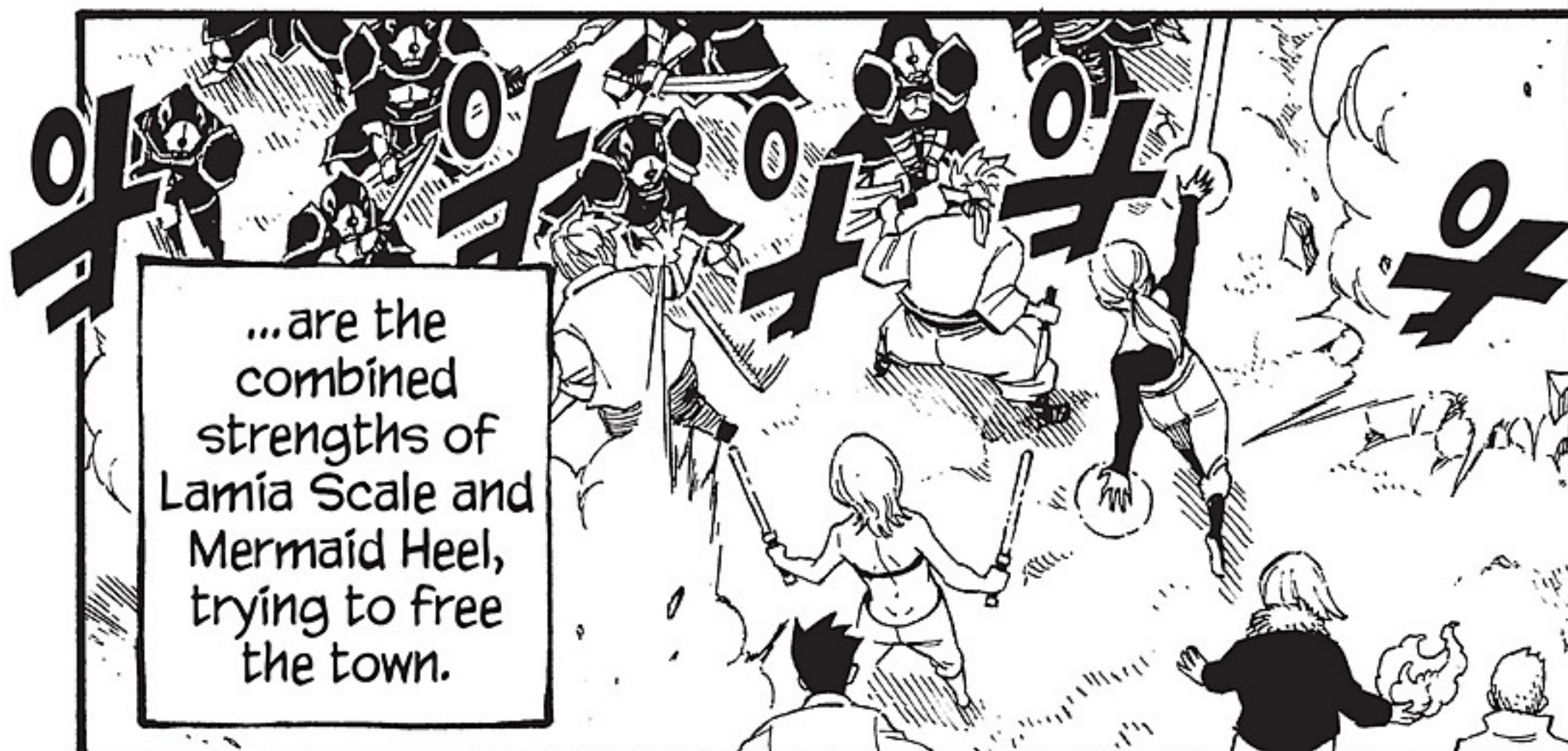
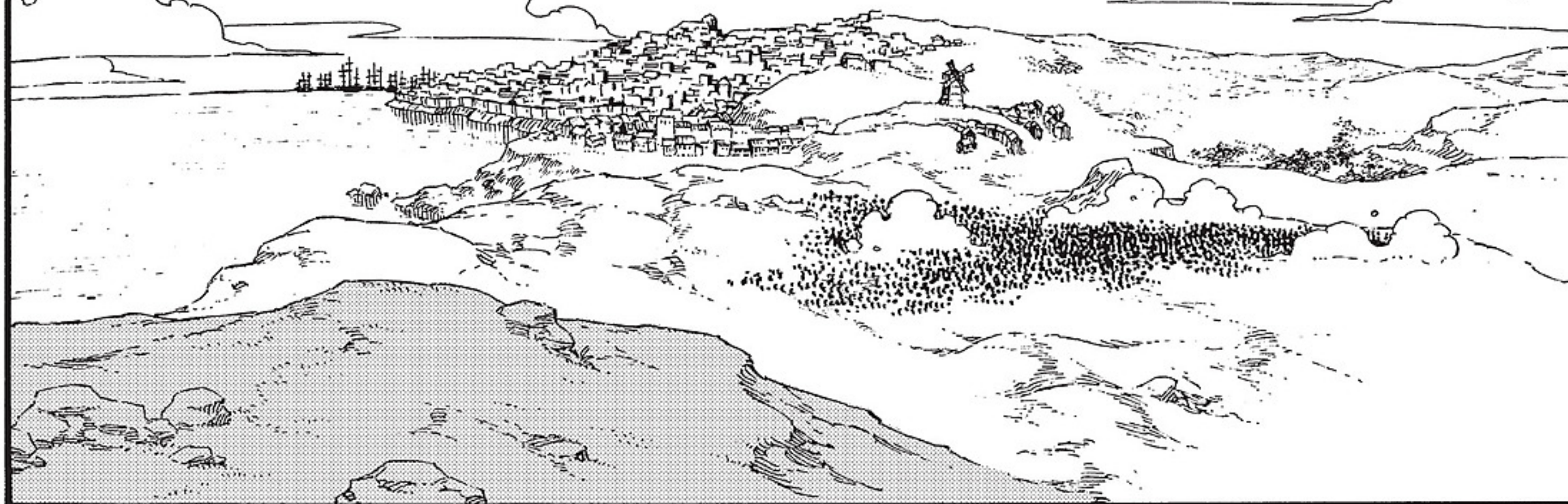
## Chapter 467: Mother's Key





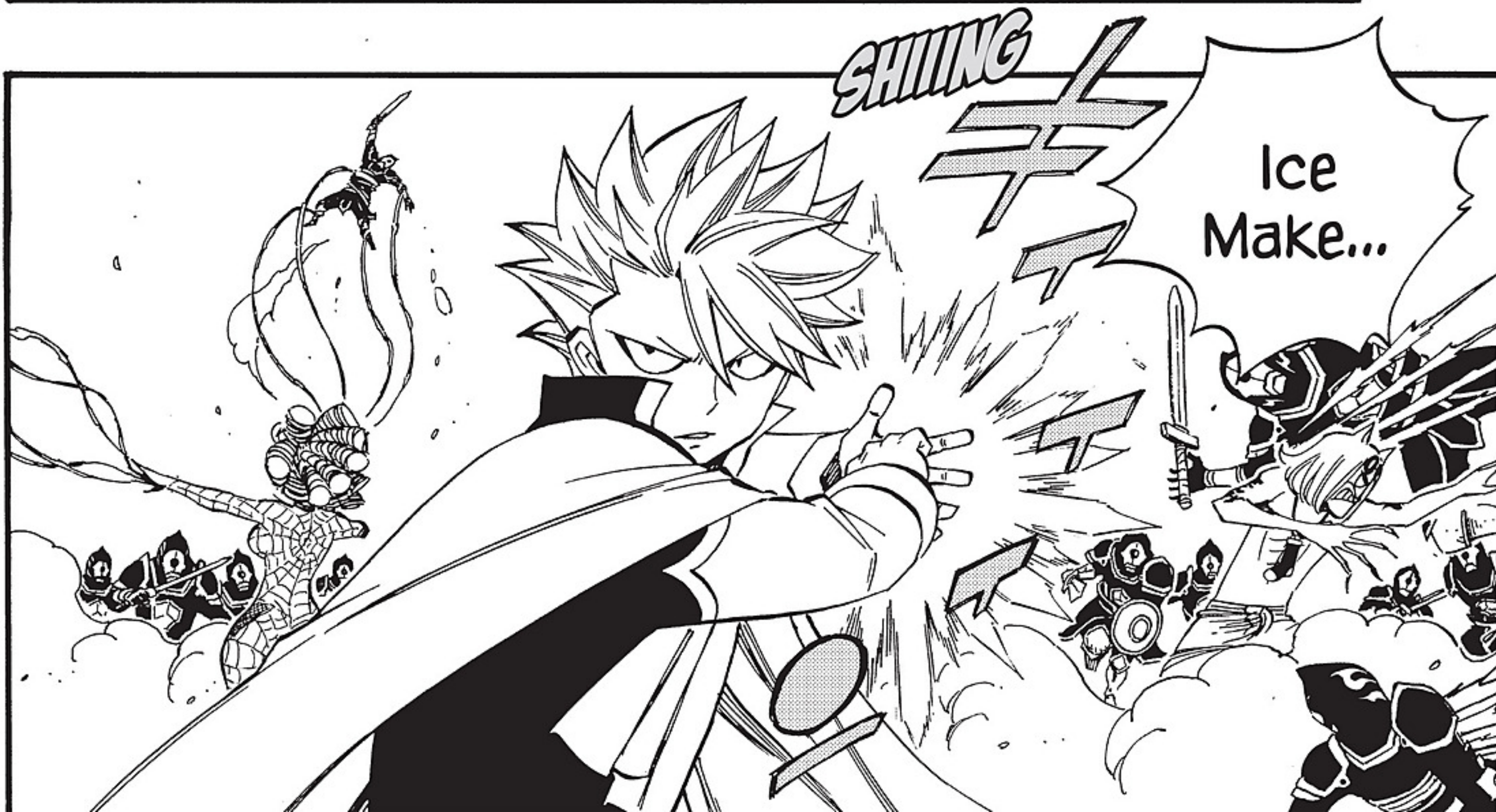
✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

The port town of Hargeon ...



...are the combined strengths of Lamia Scale and Mermaid Heel, trying to free the town.

The Alvarez forces have made the town their base, but standing against them...



Ice Make...















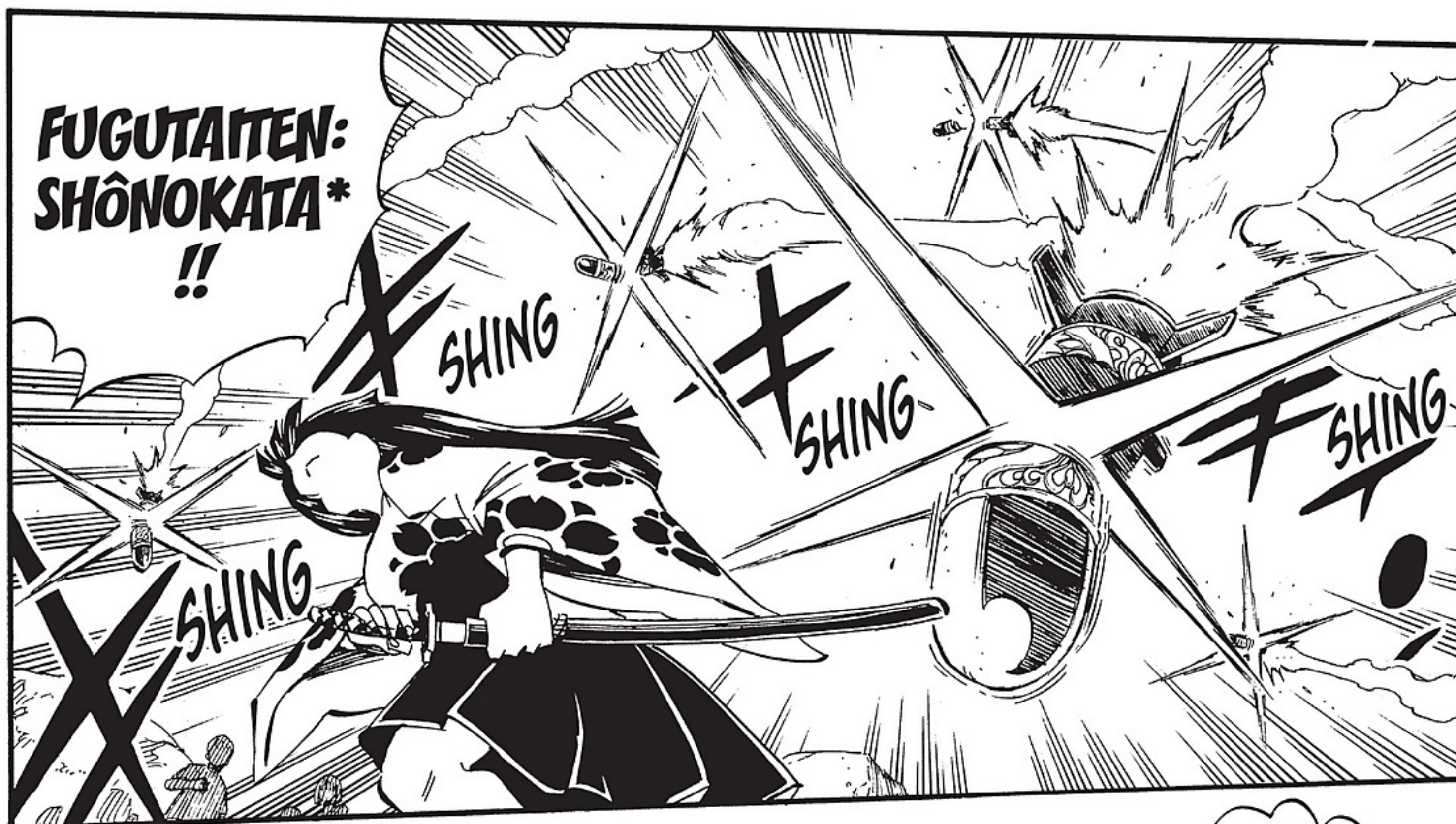


Leave them to me!!

Next!!  
Next!!!



Kagura-chan!!  
Magic attacks  
are coming at  
us from the  
sky!!



**FUGUTAIEN:  
SHÔNOKATA\***  
!!

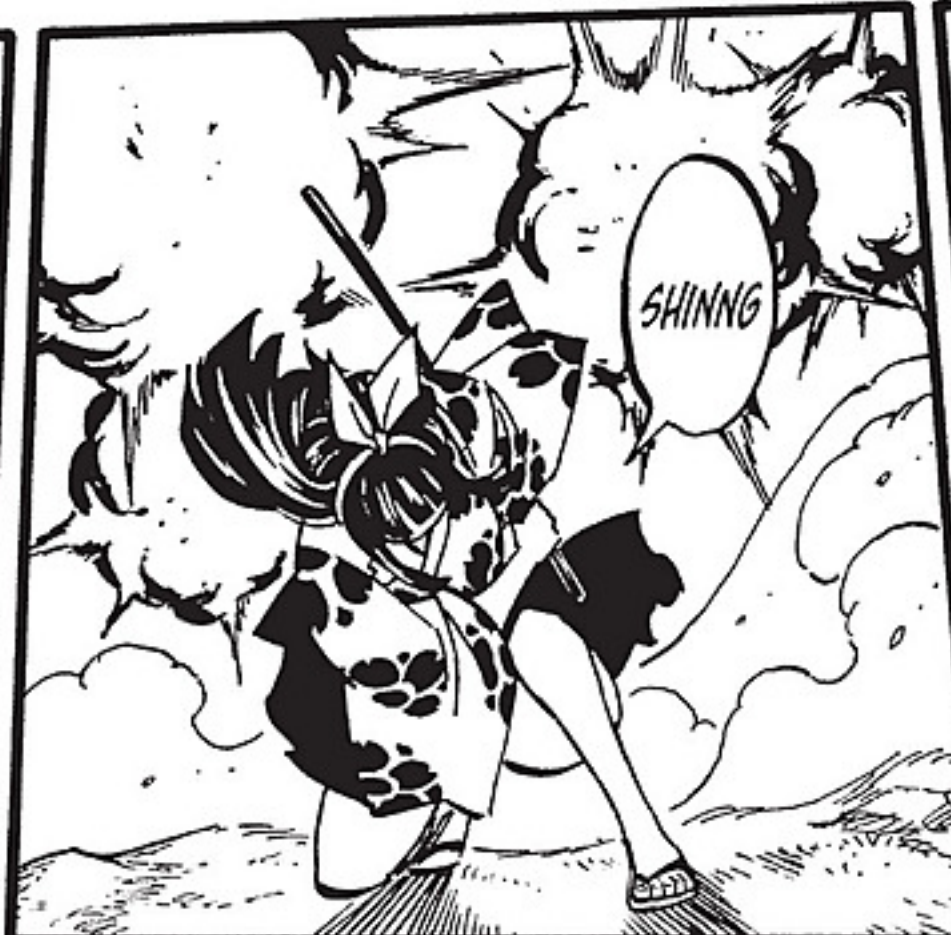
SHING

SHING

SHING

SHING

\*Vengeance Sword: Archenemy: "Flight" Kata!!

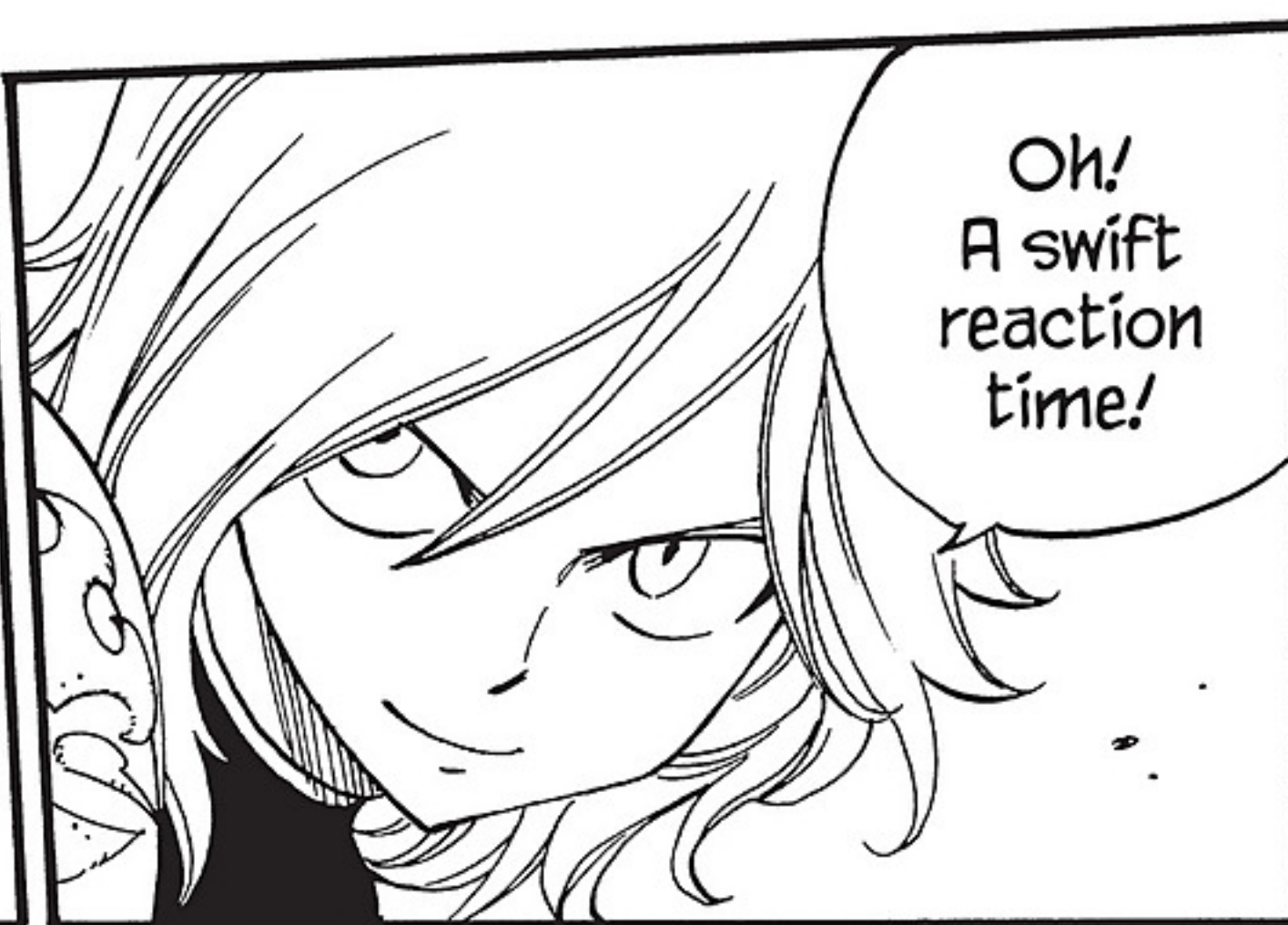


SHING

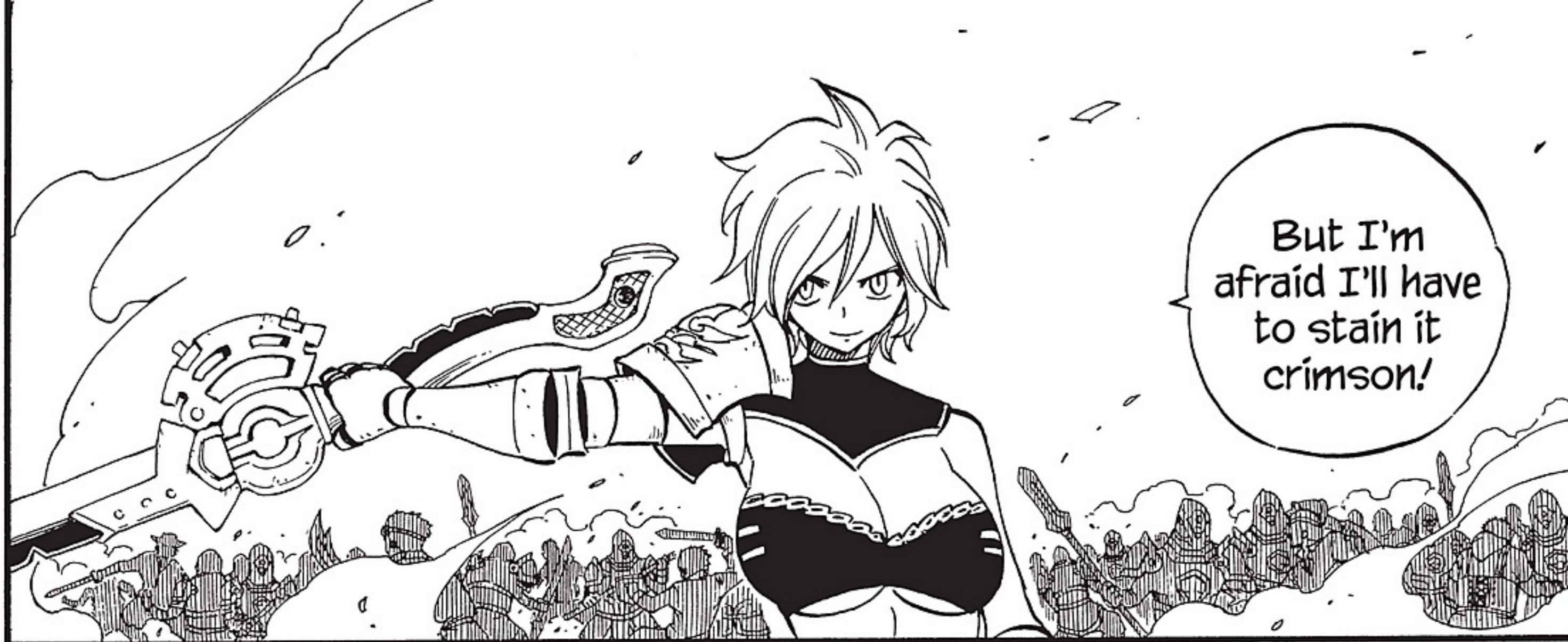


Amazing  
as ever!

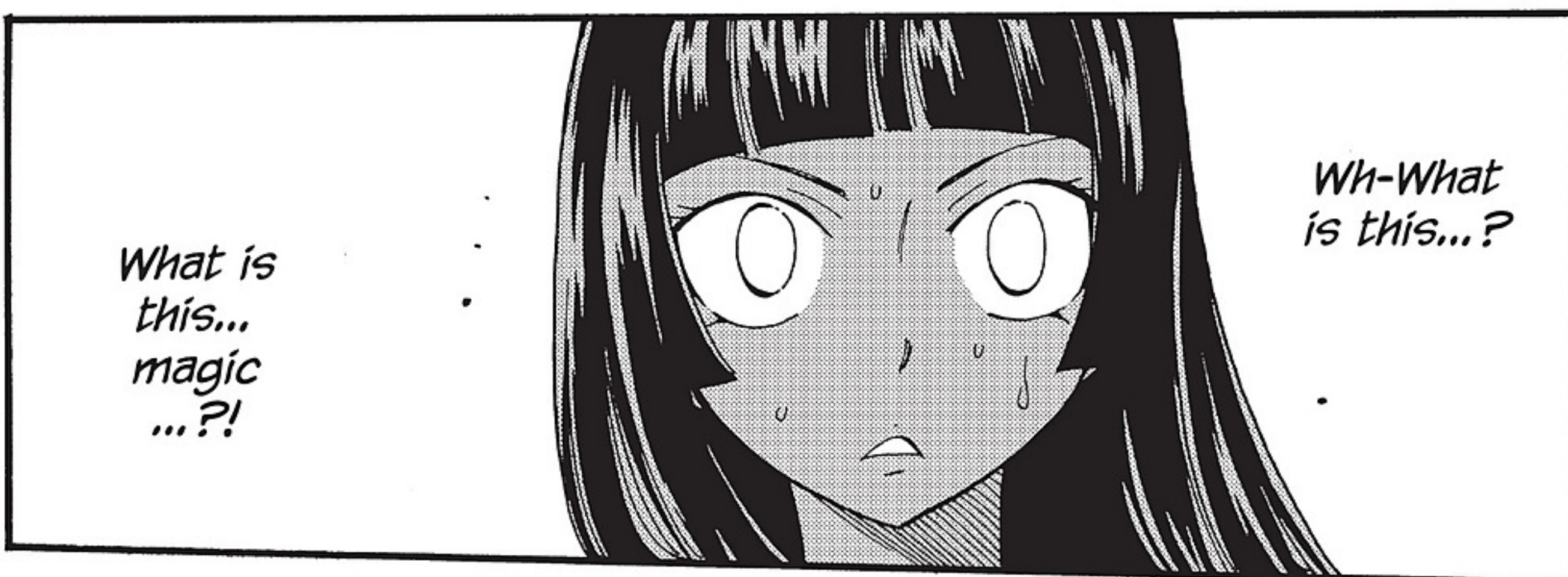






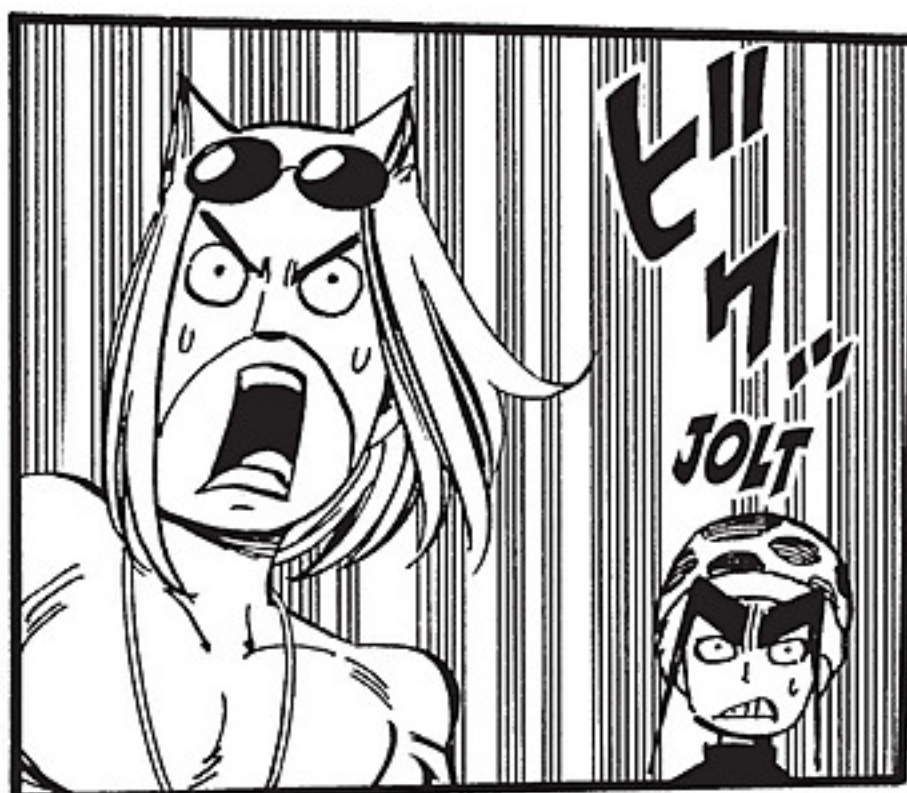


But I'm afraid I'll have to stain it crimson!

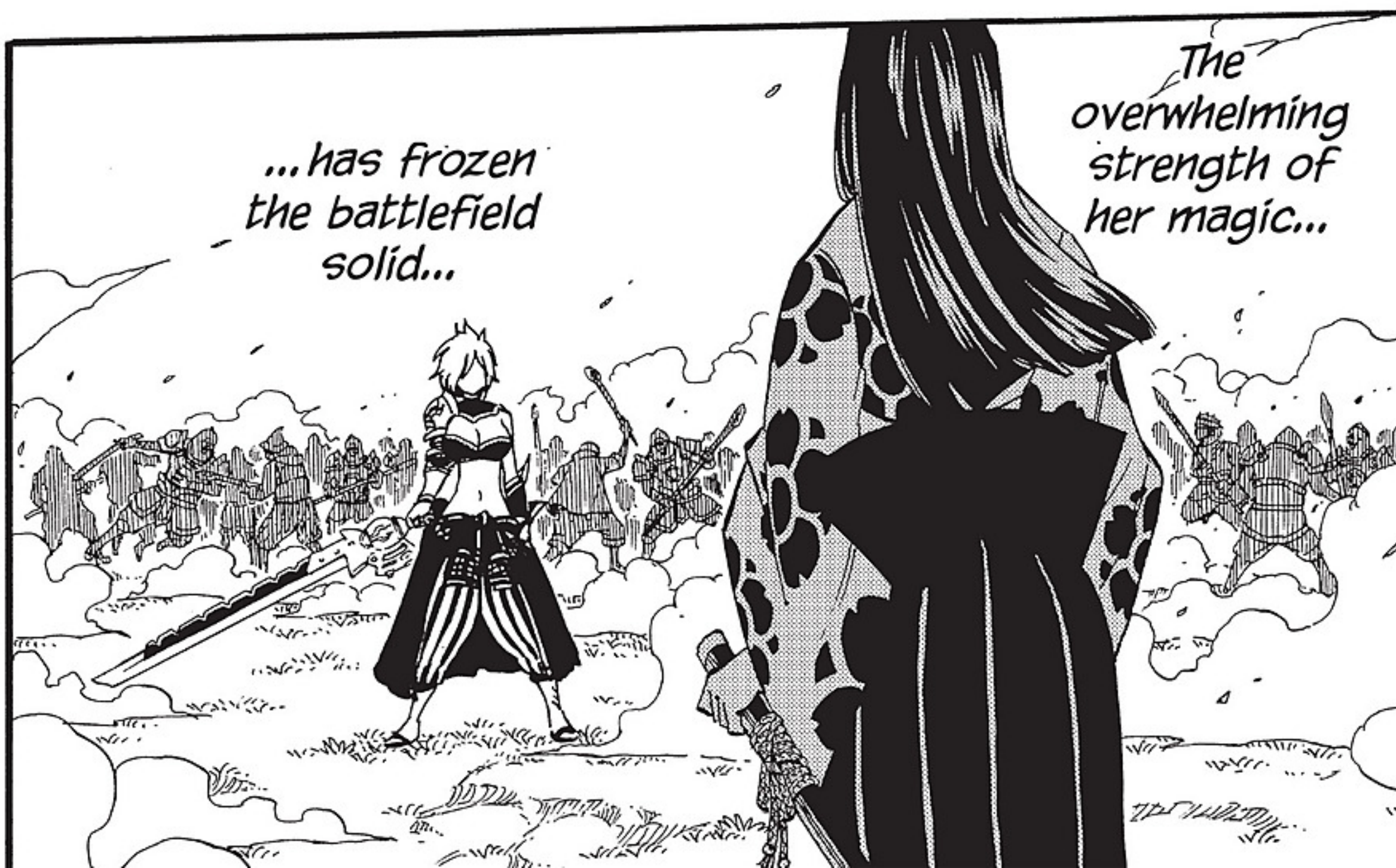


What is this...  
magic  
...?!

Wh-What  
is this...?



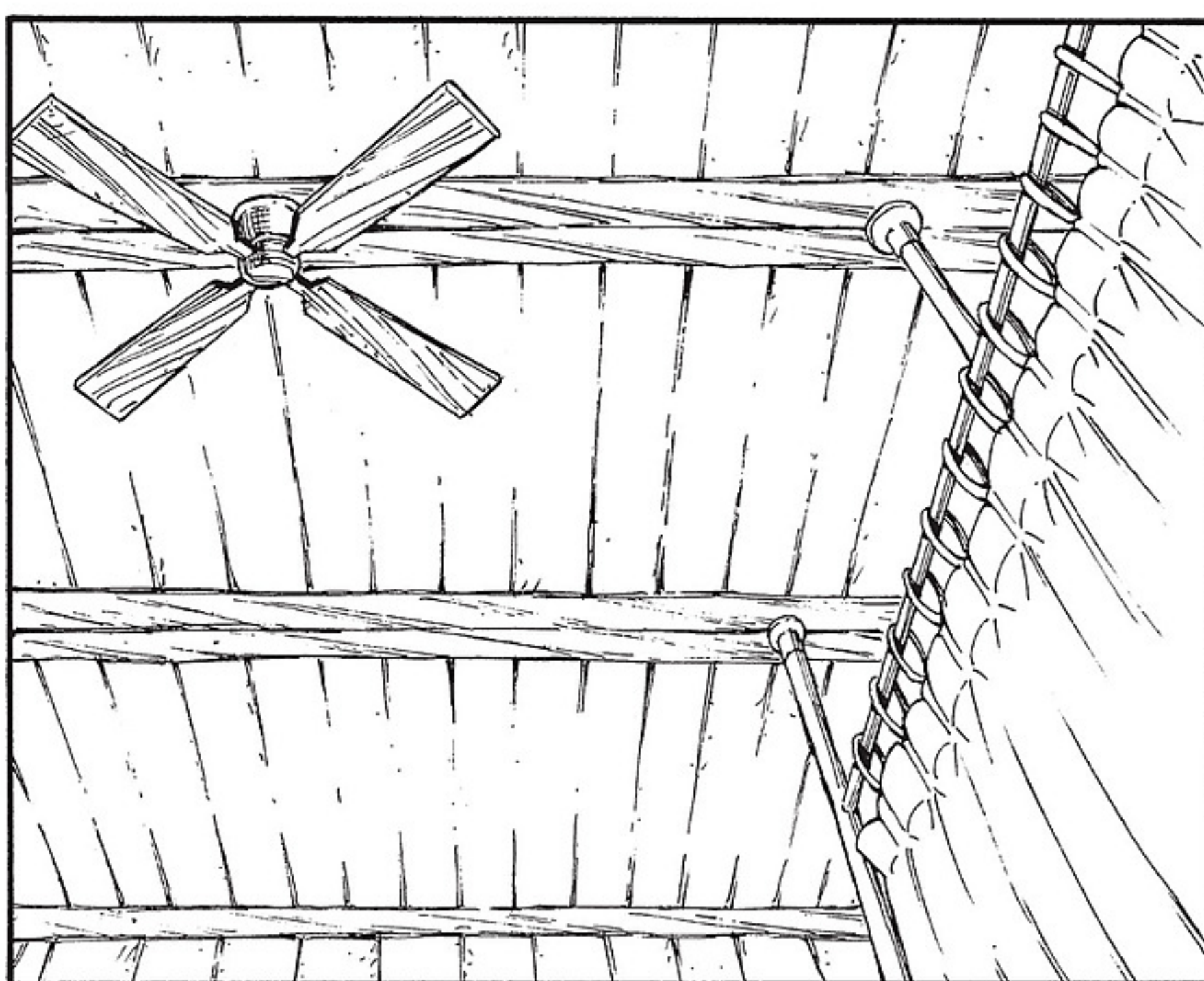
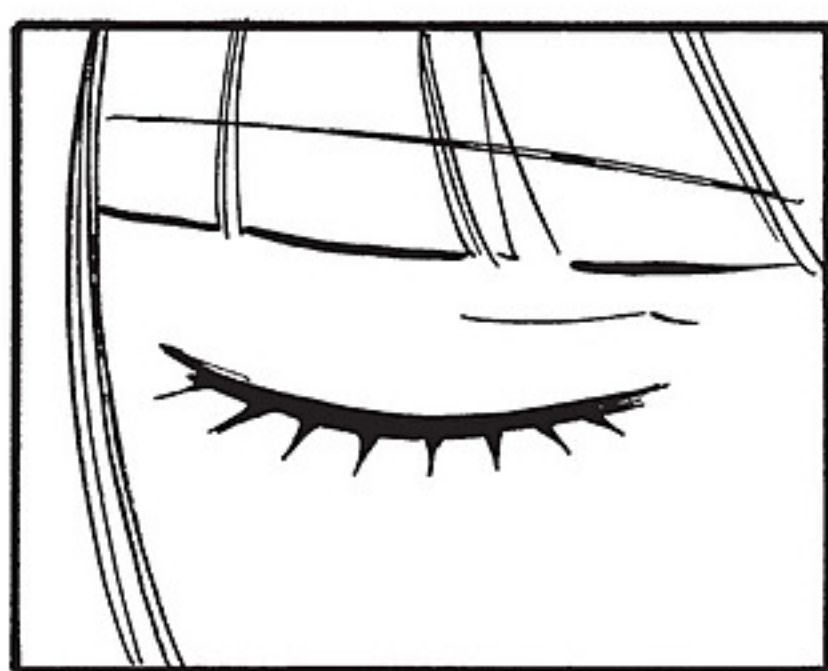
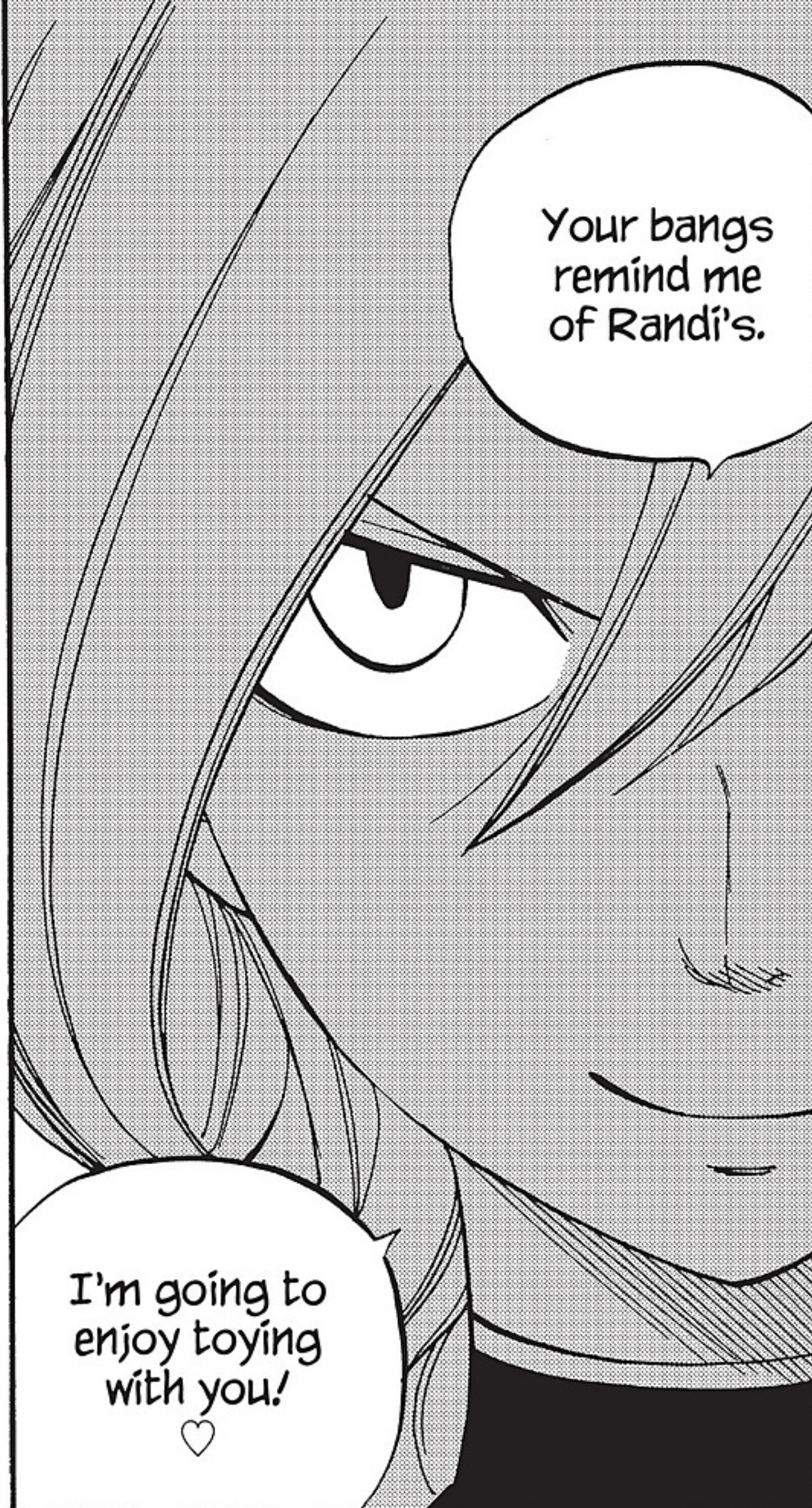
Is  
this one  
of the  
infamous  
Spriggan  
12...?



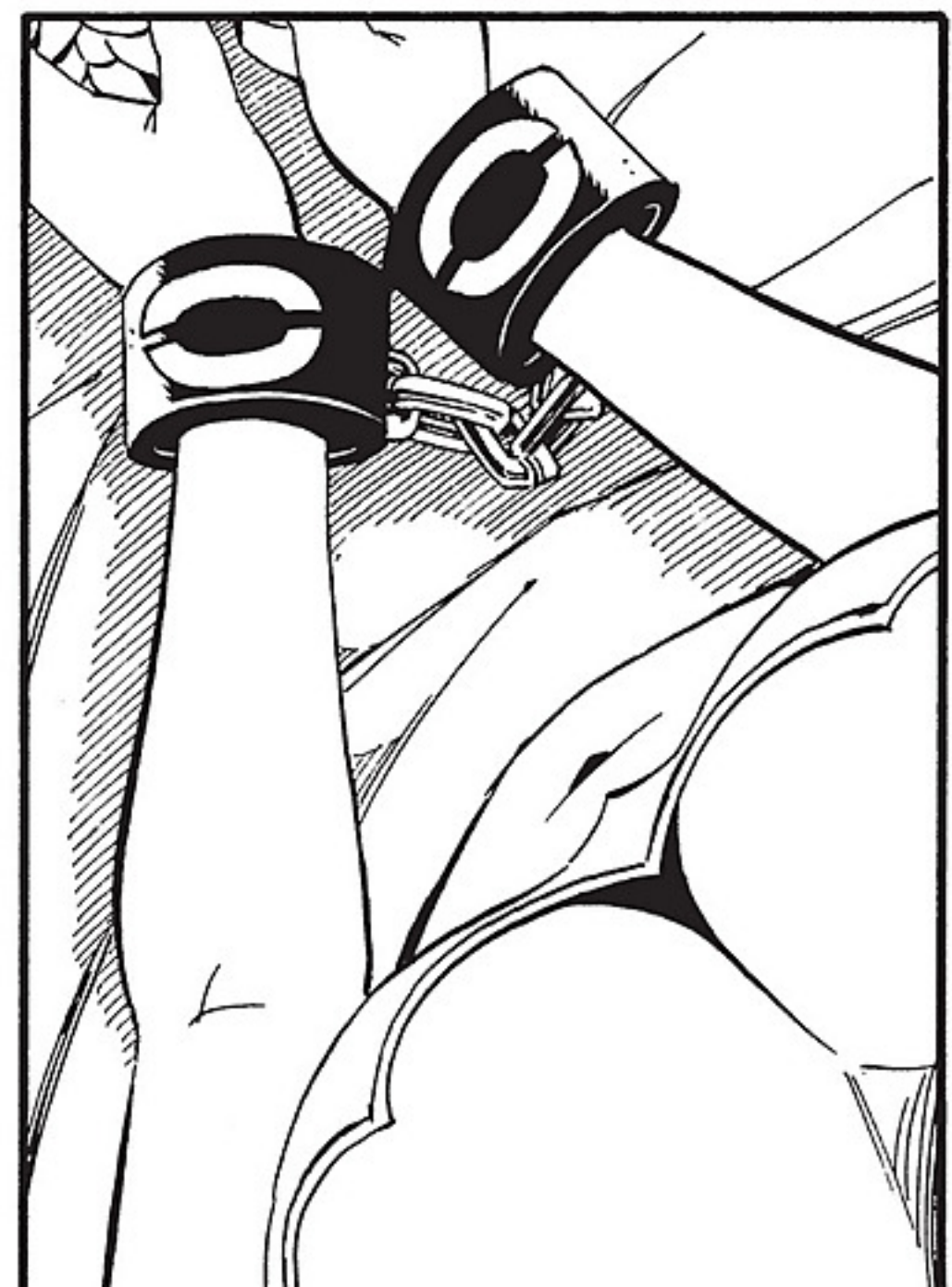
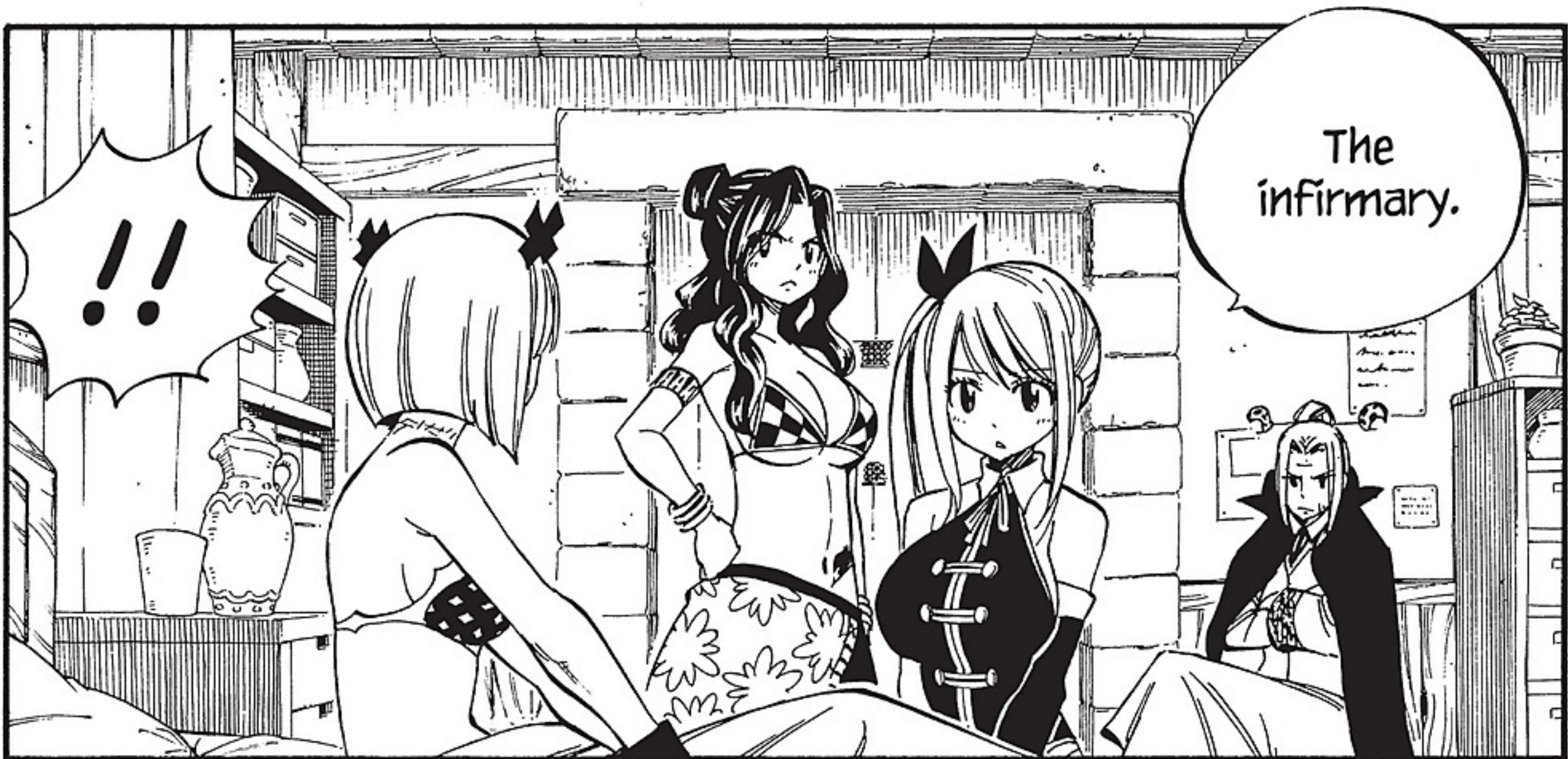
...has frozen  
the battlefield  
solid...

The  
overwhelming  
strength of  
her magic...

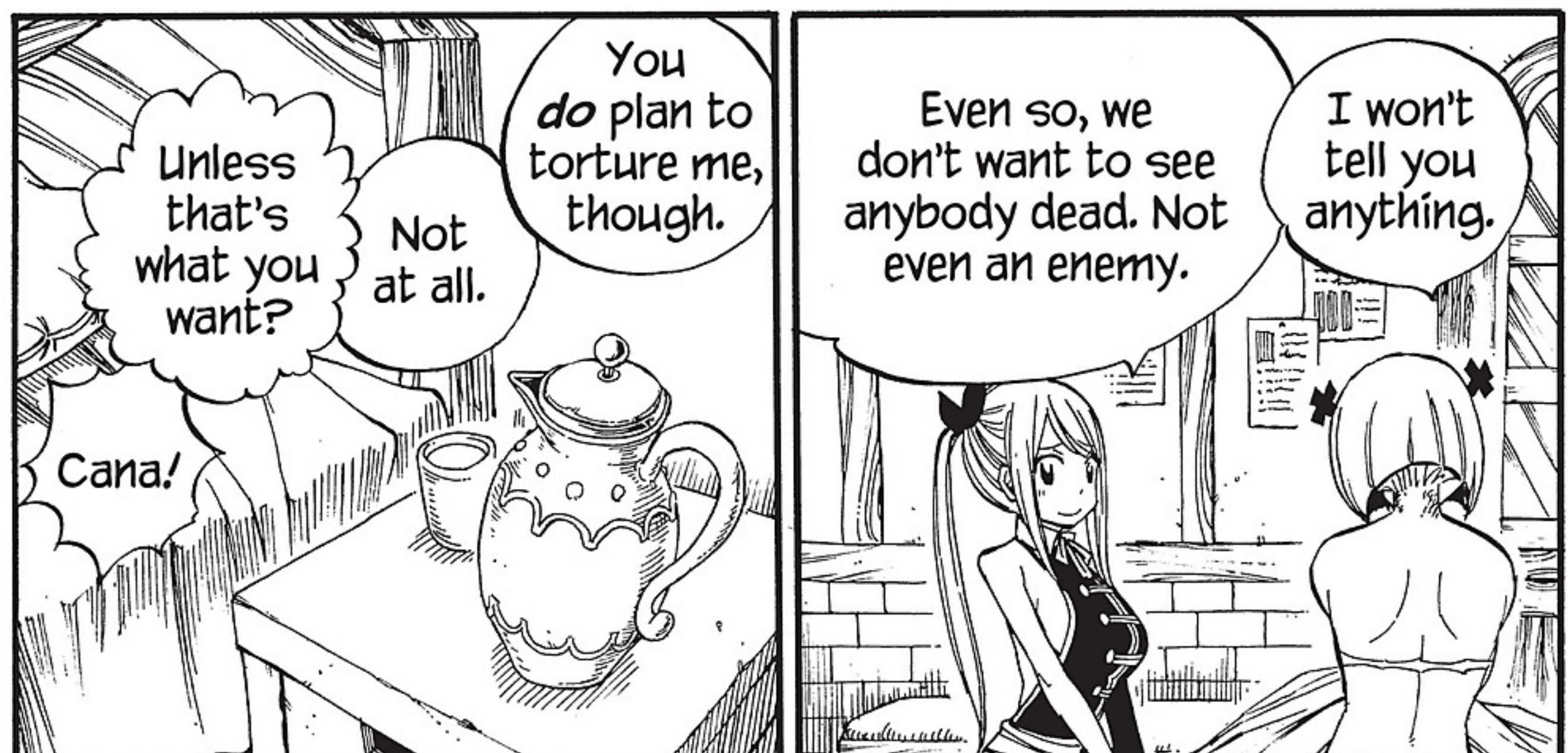
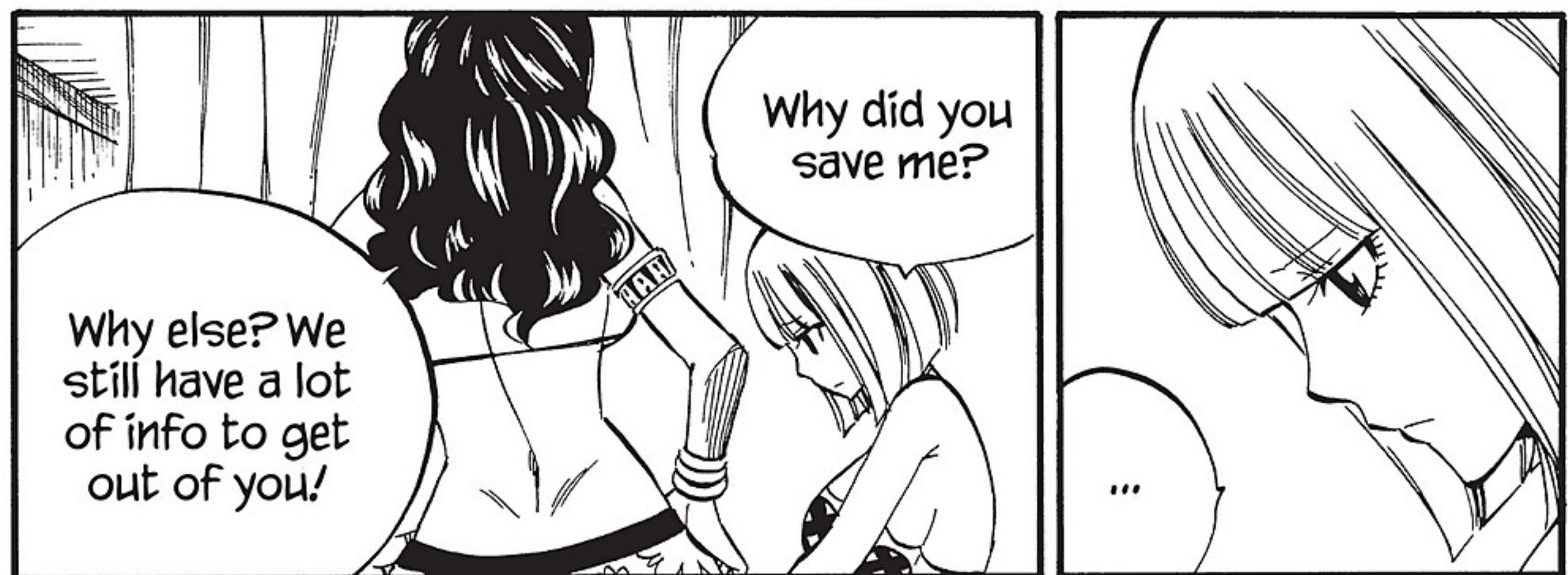
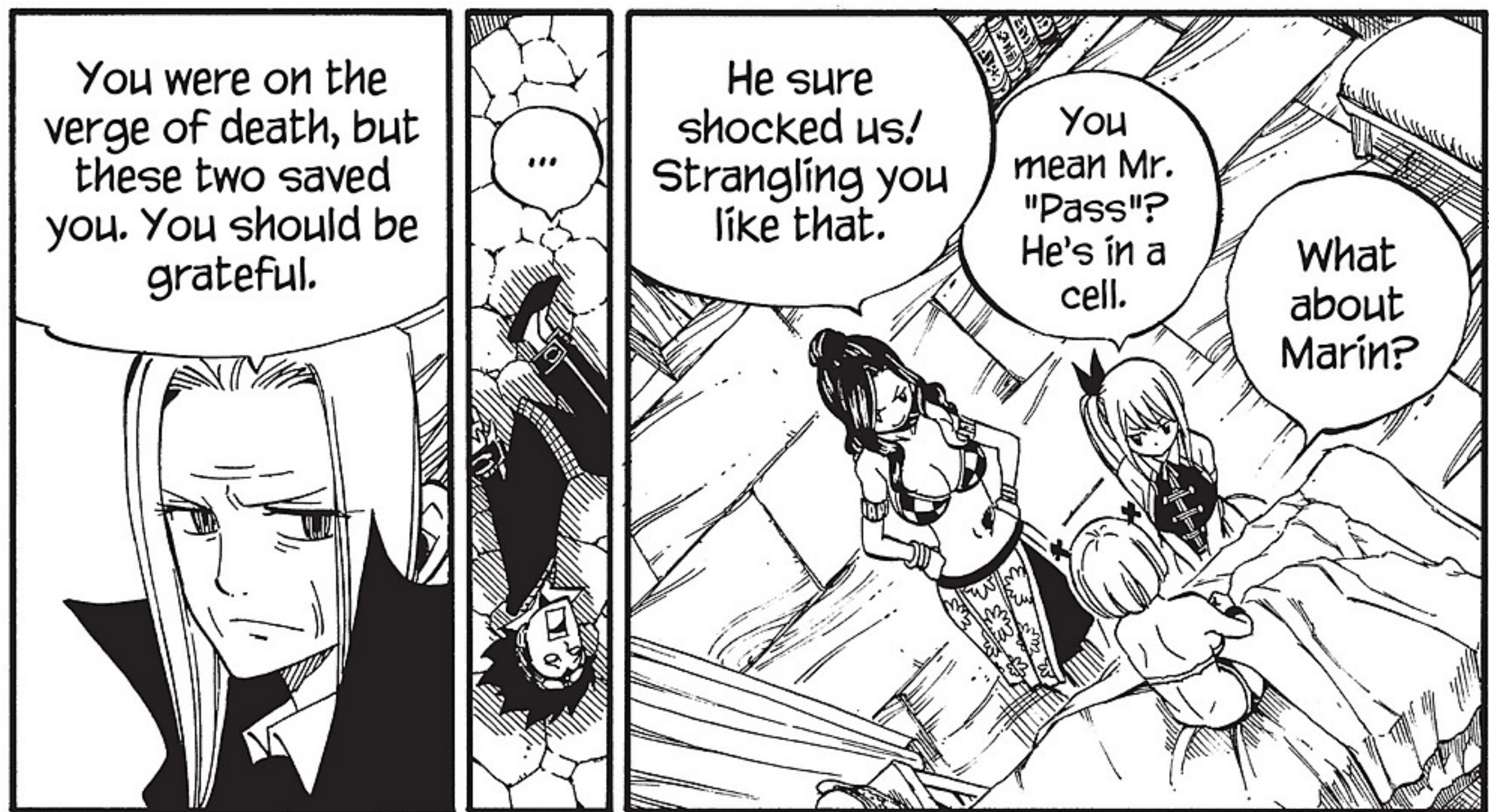




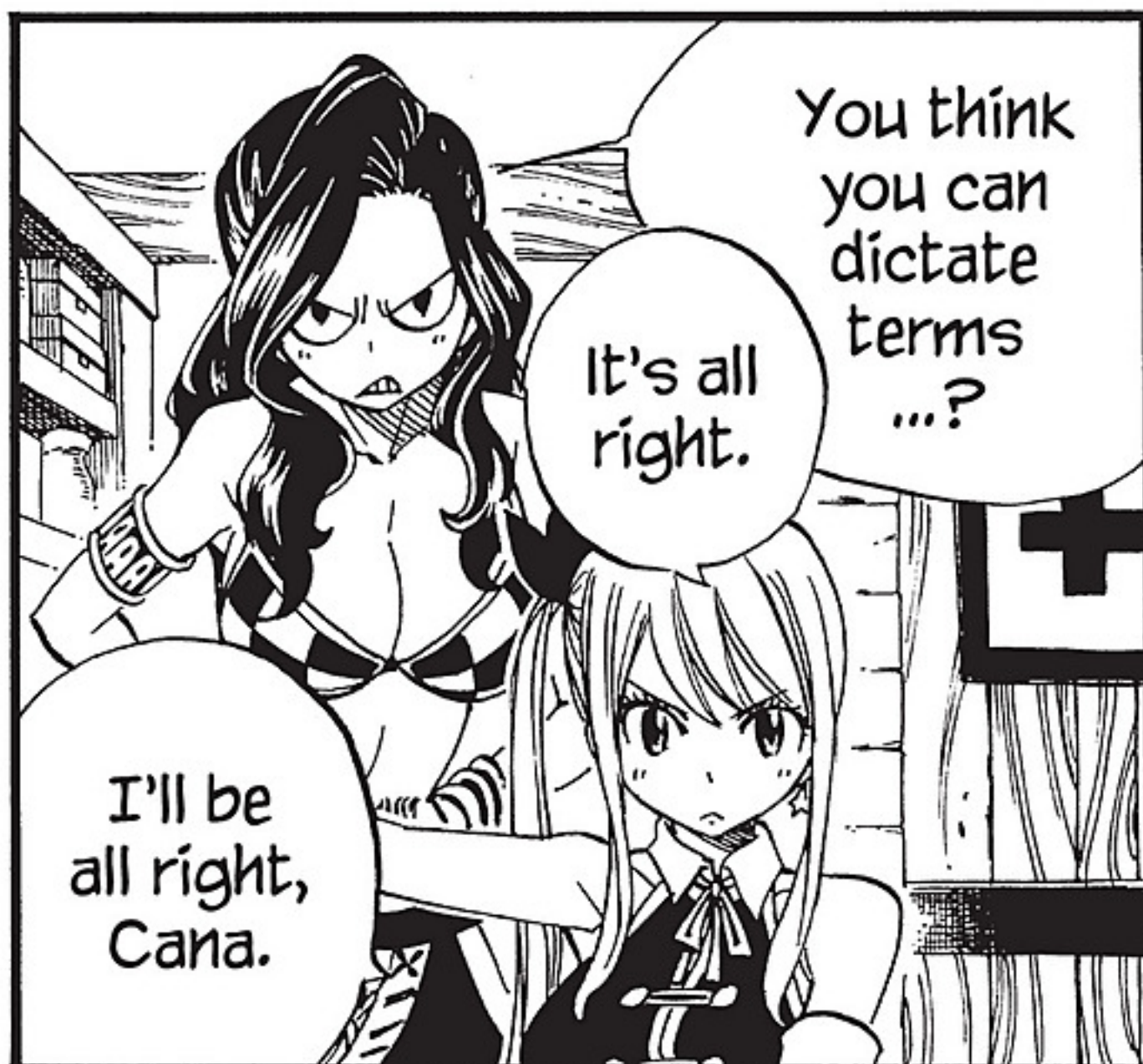
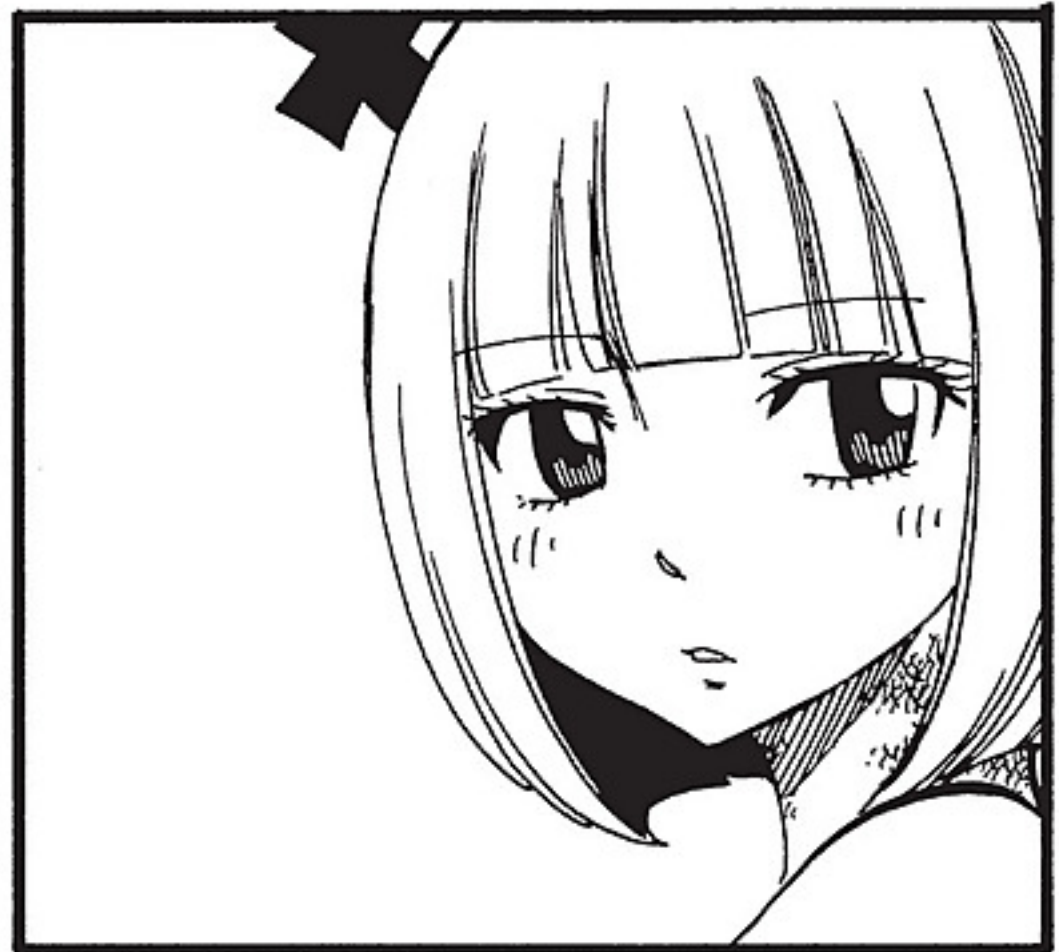
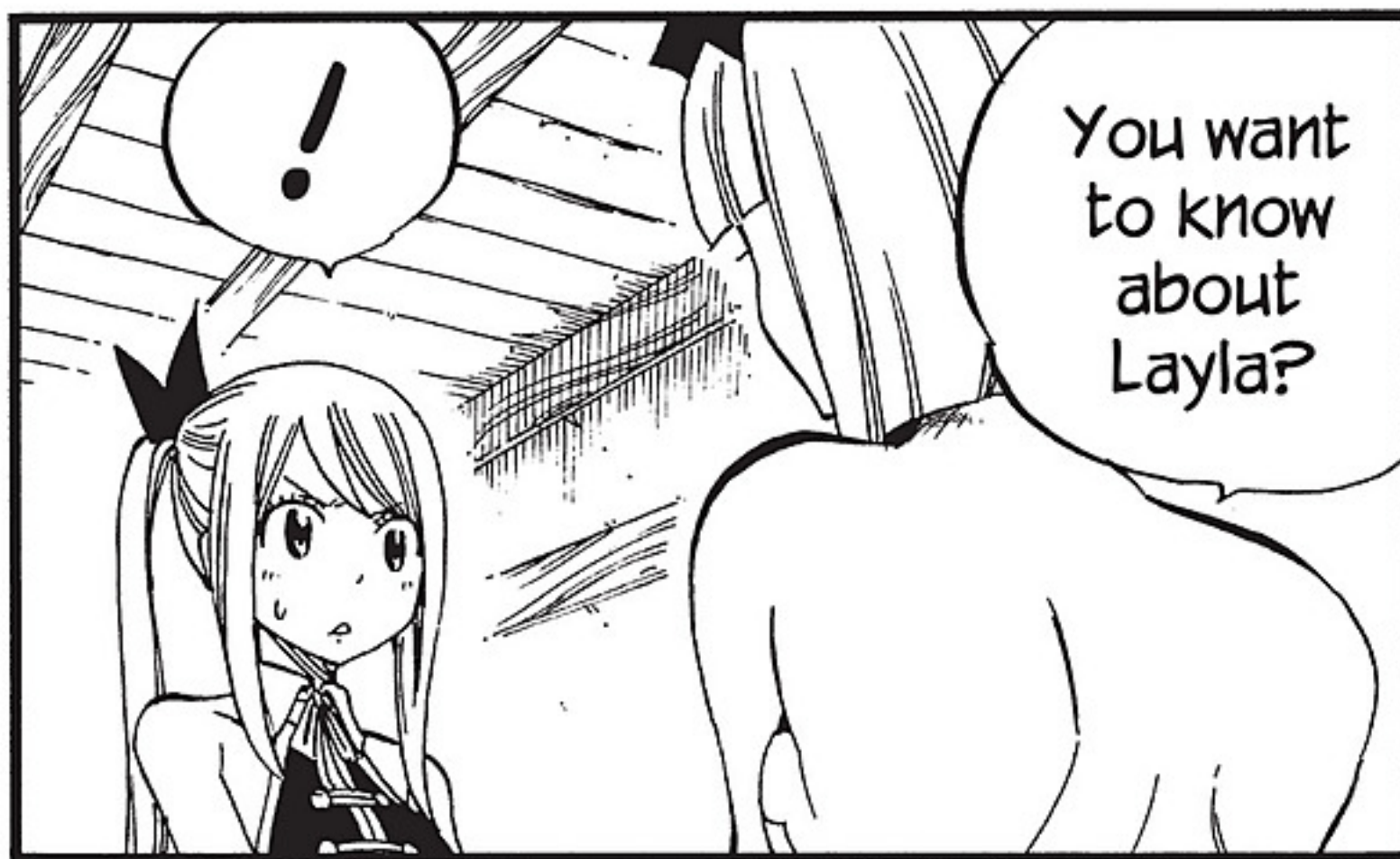




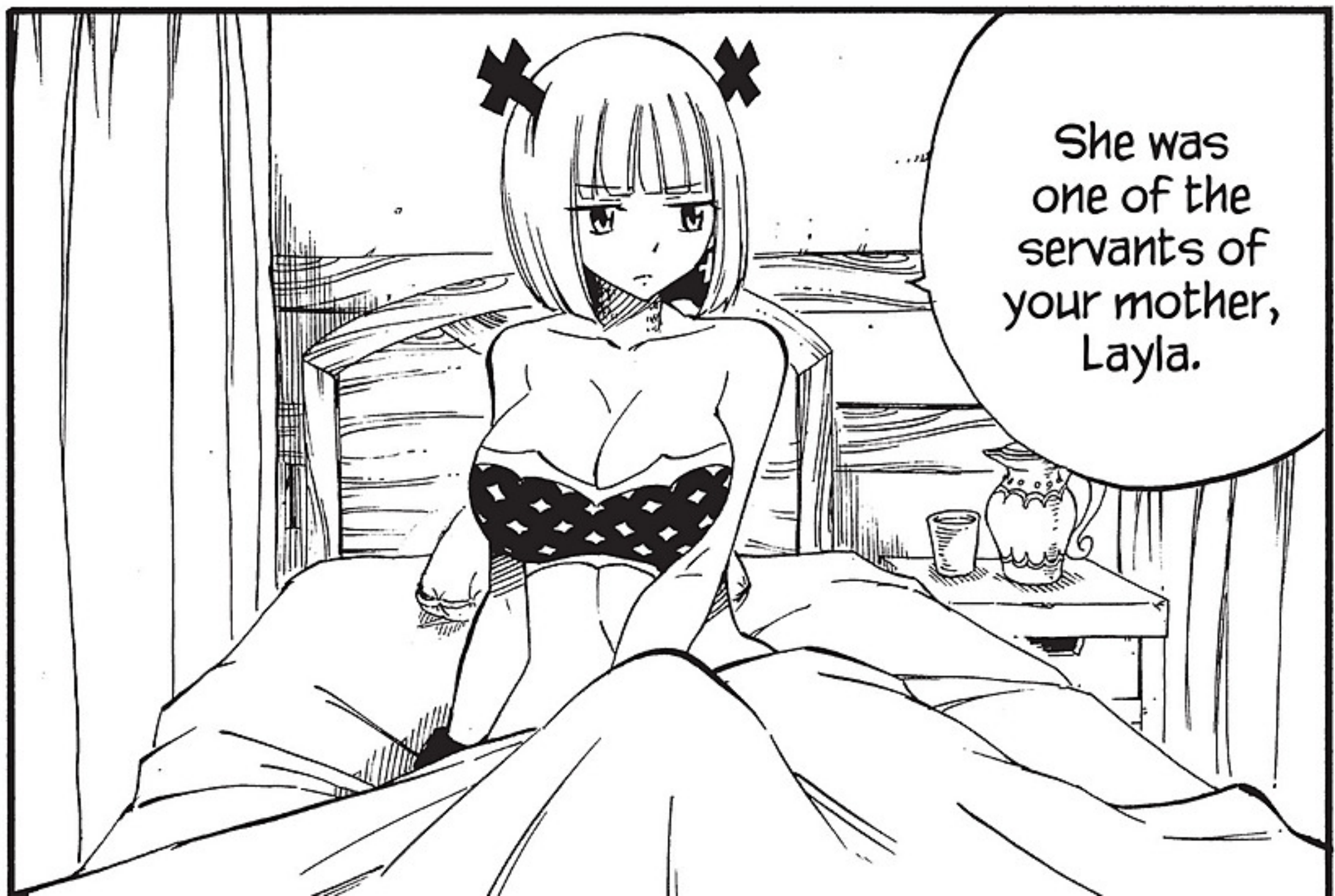
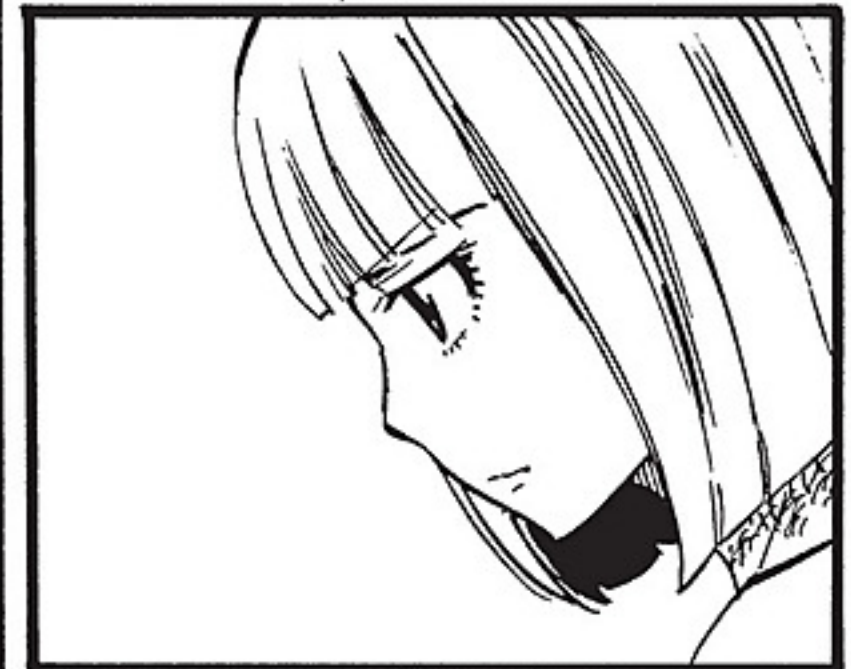
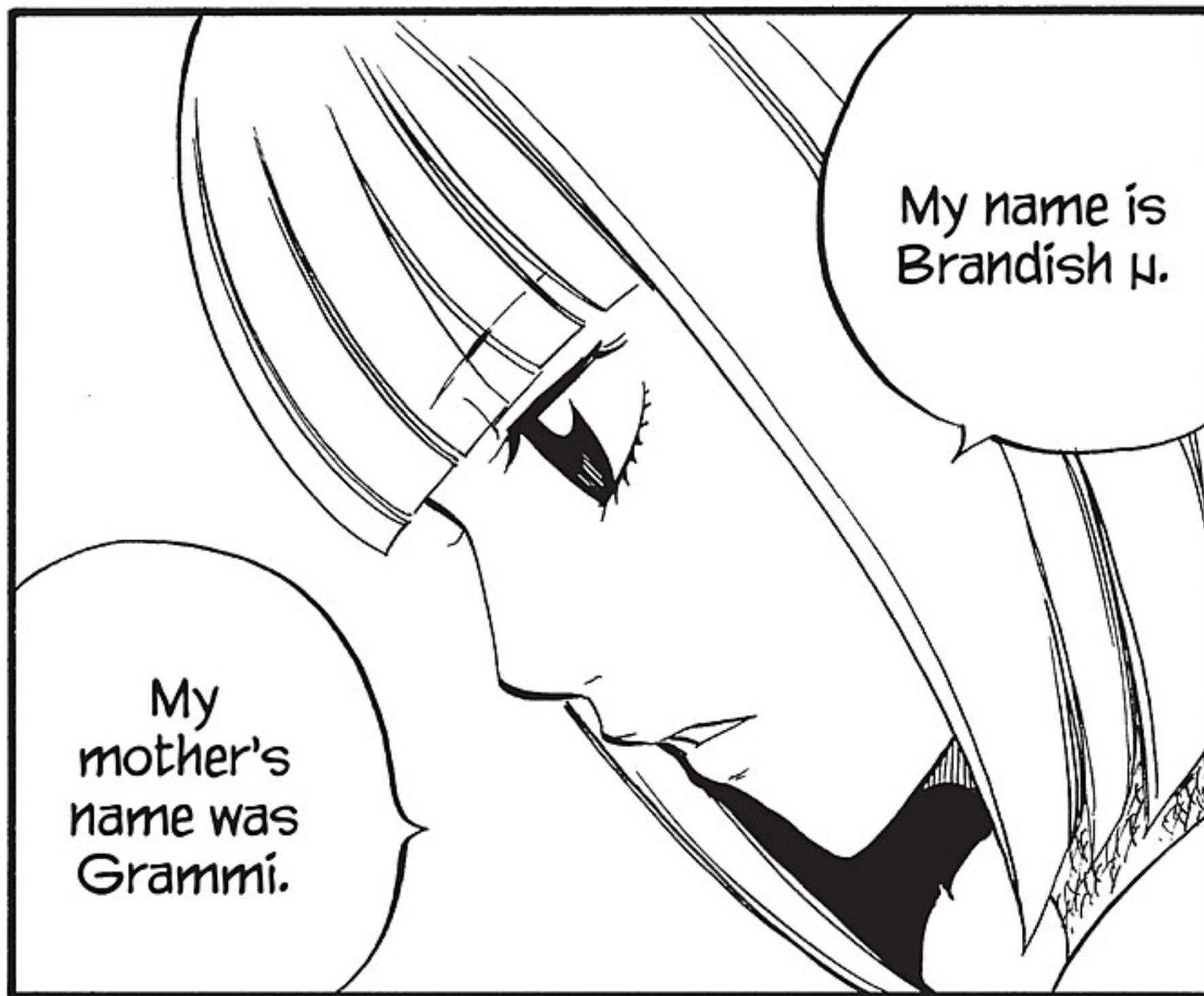
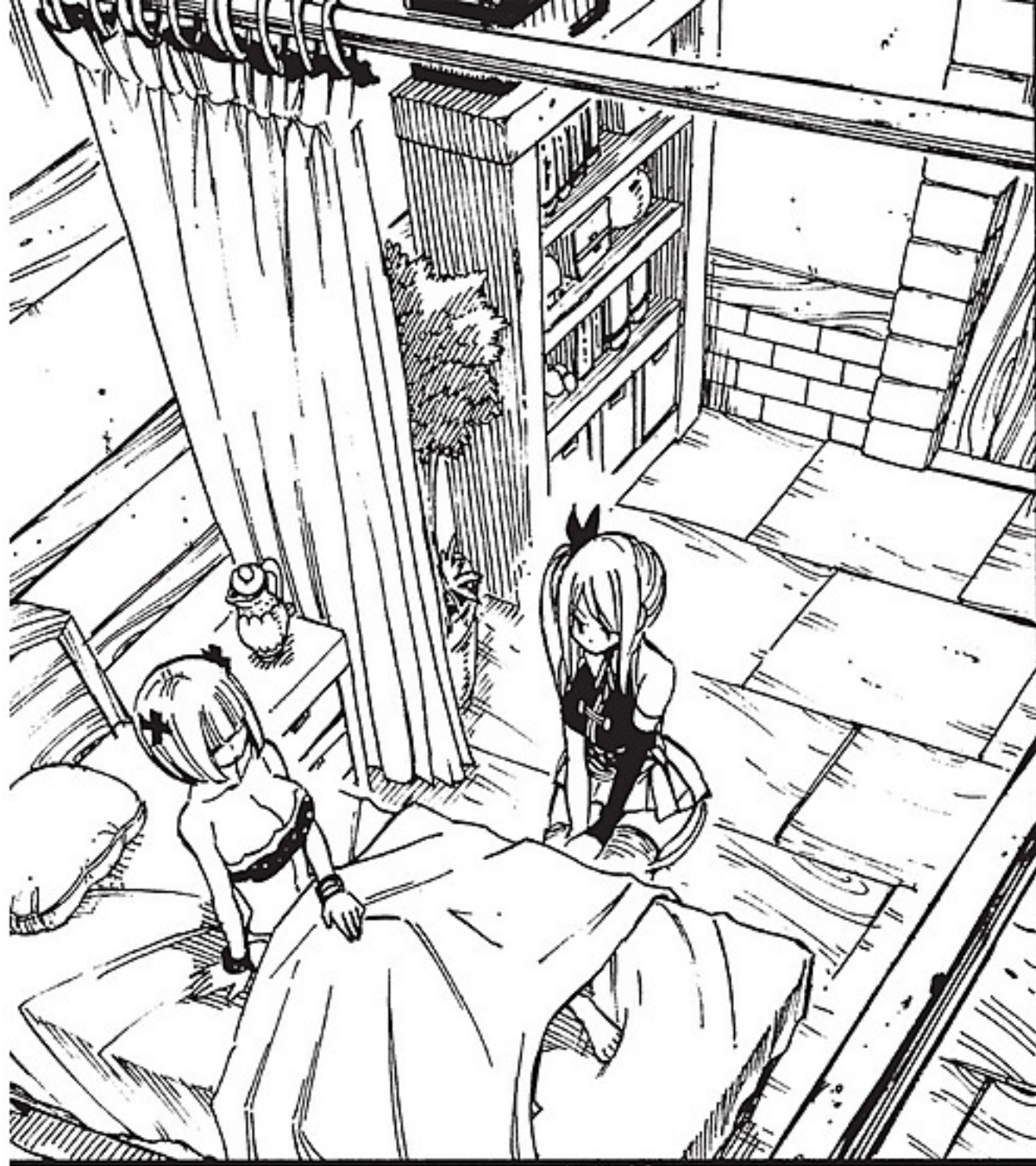




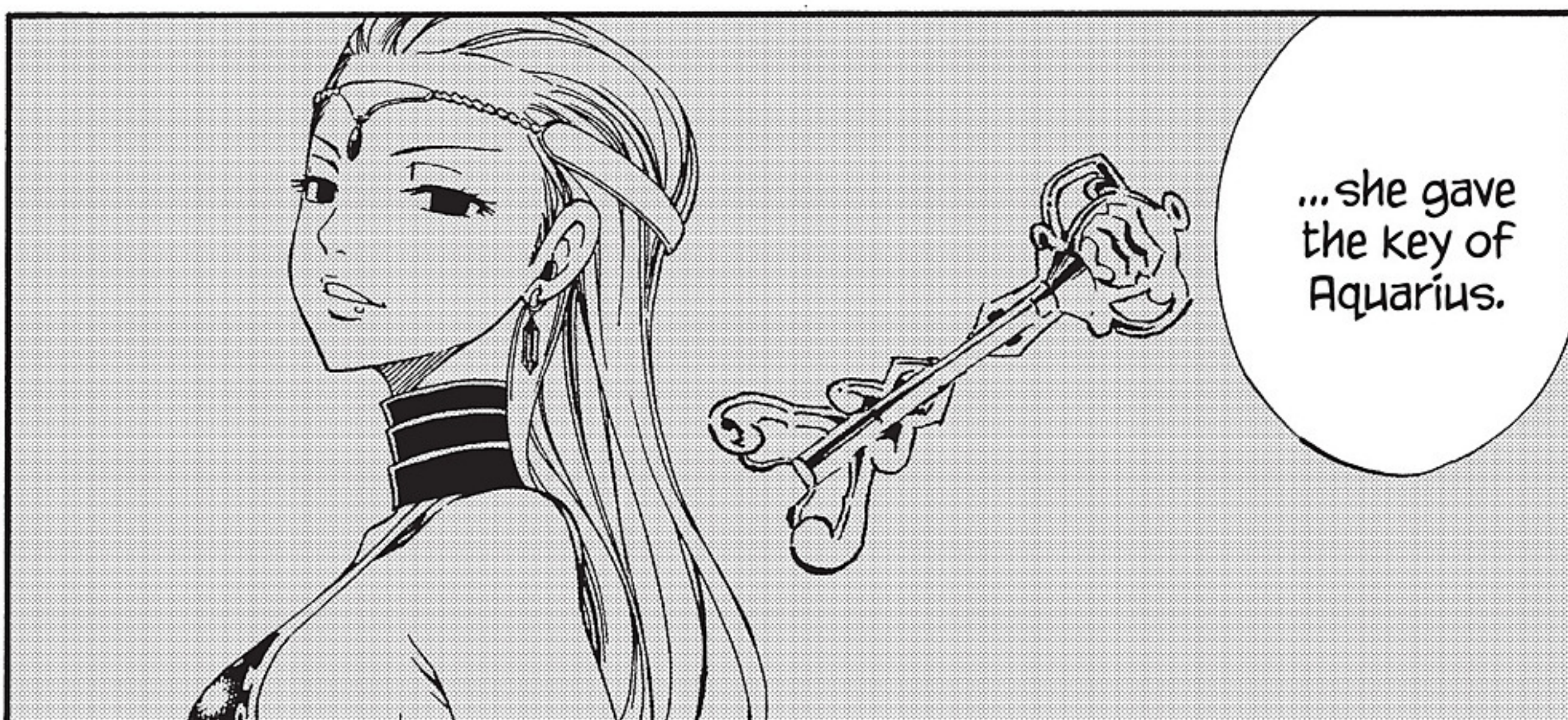
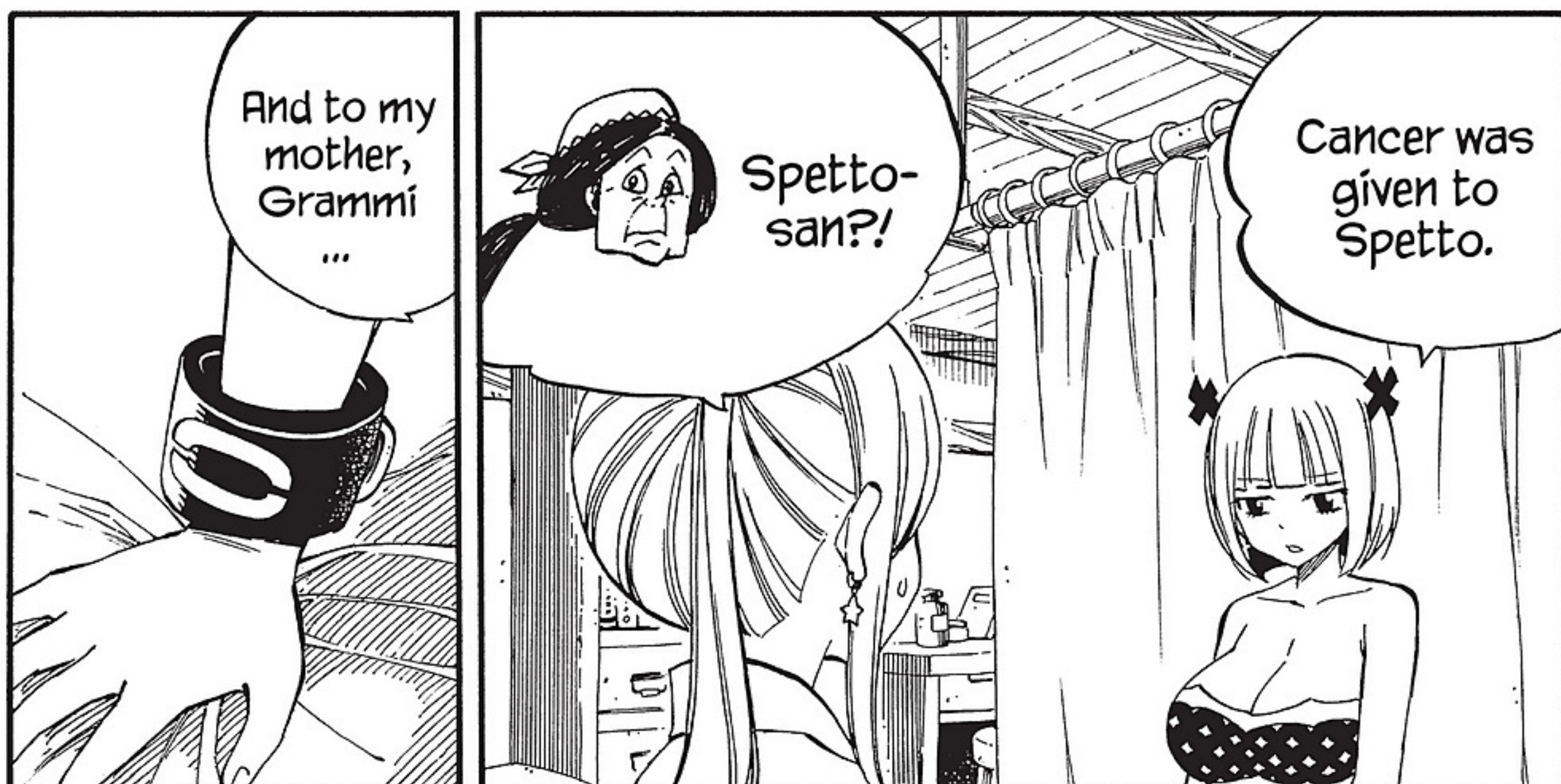
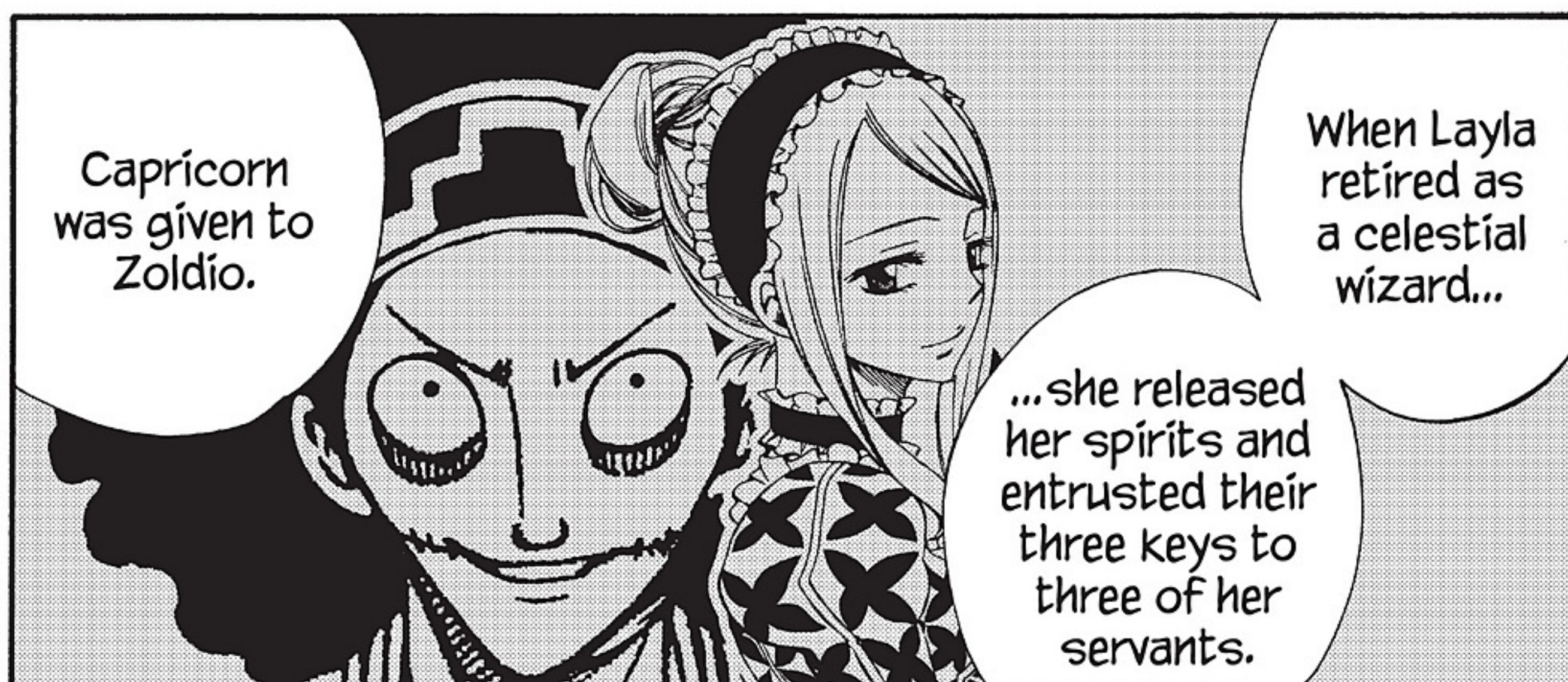




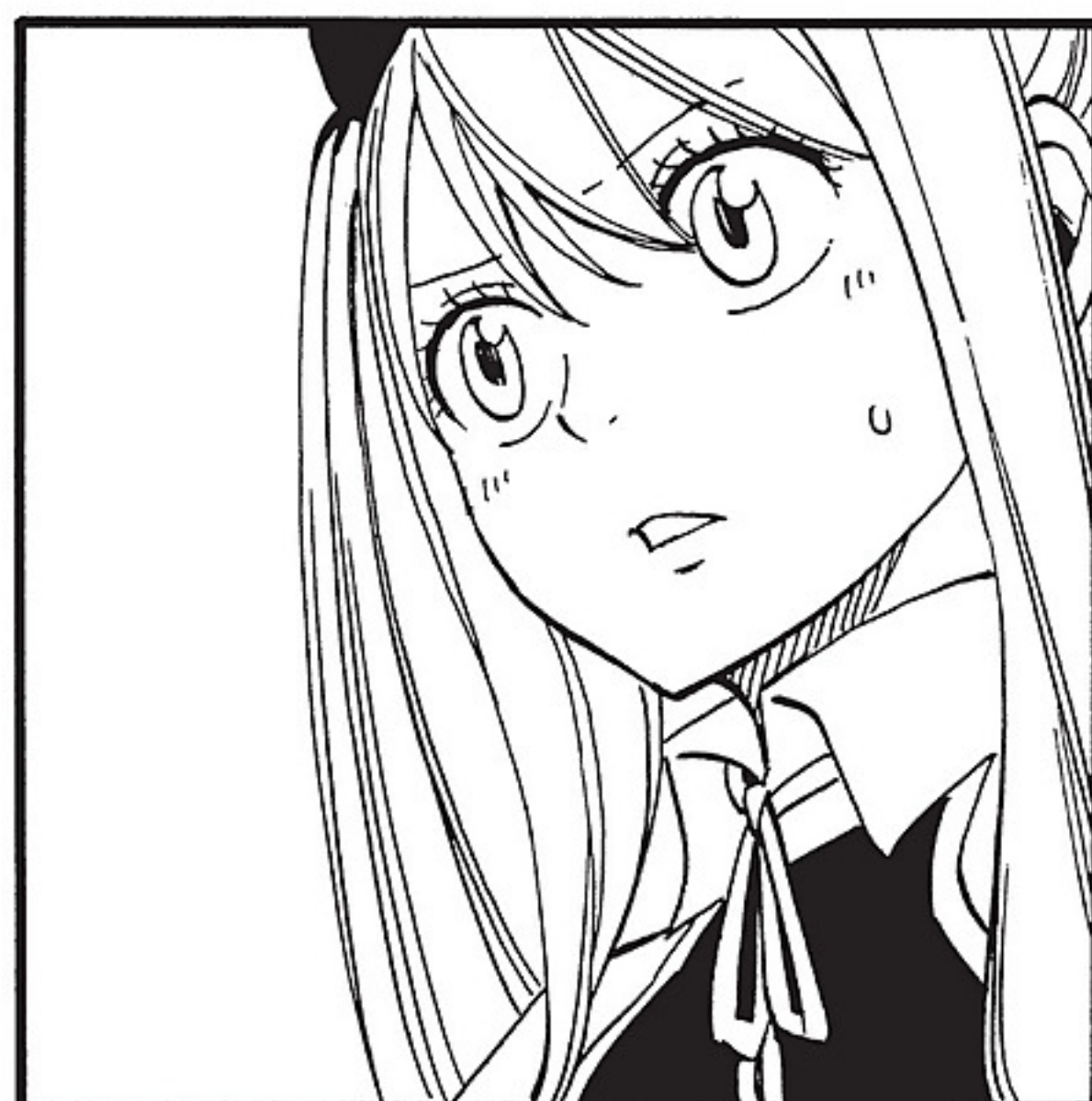
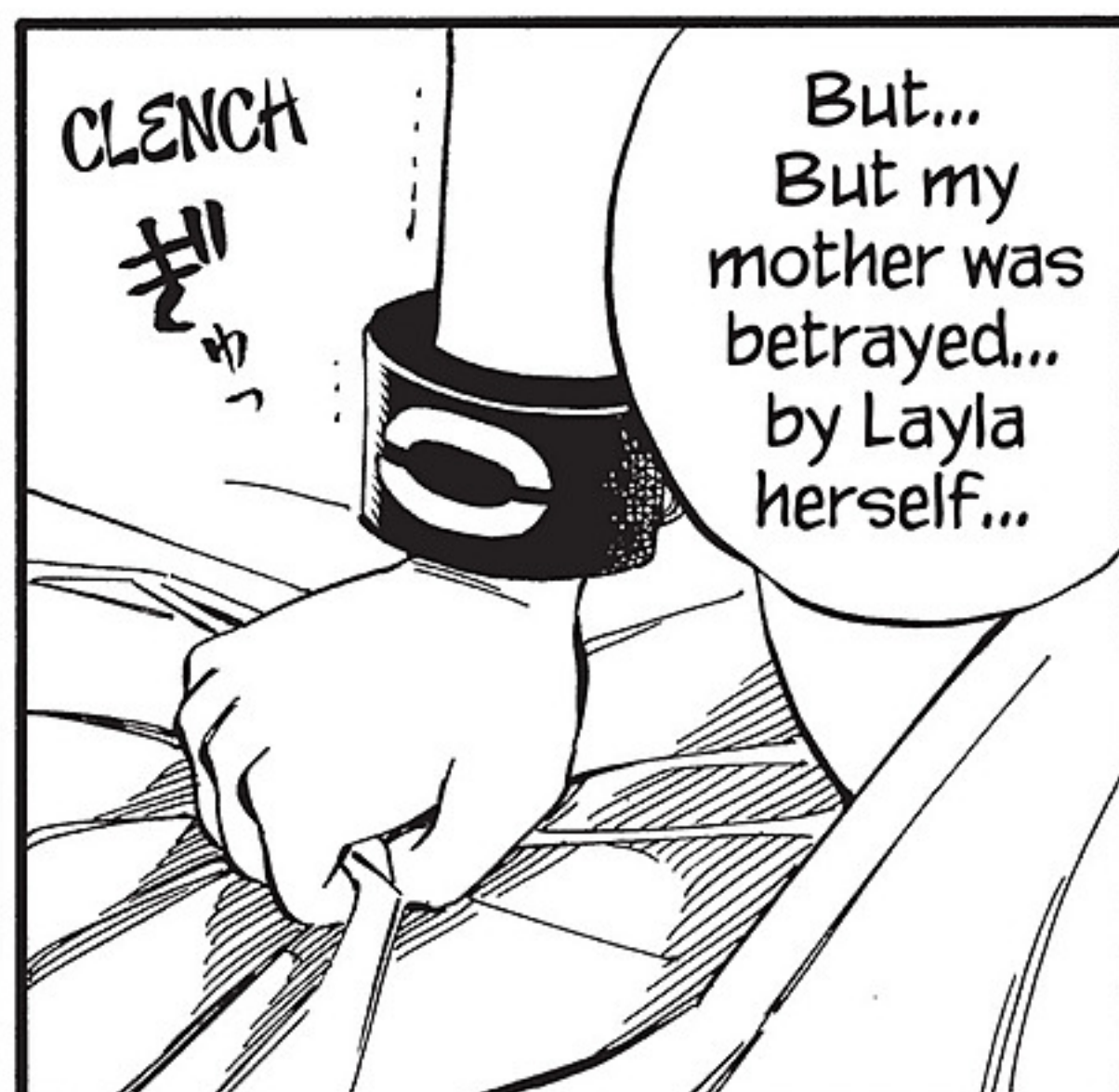
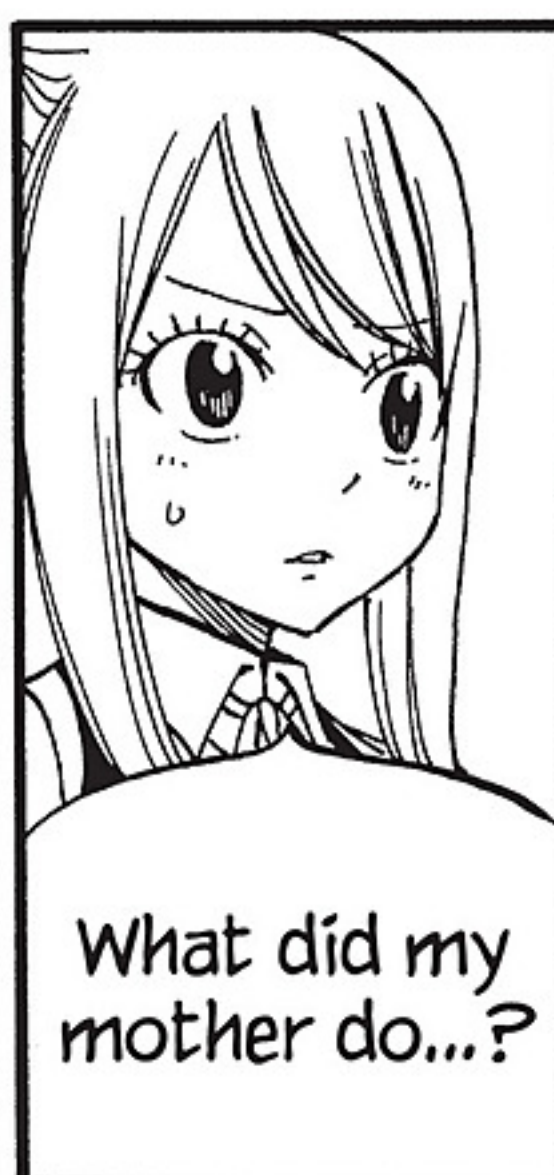
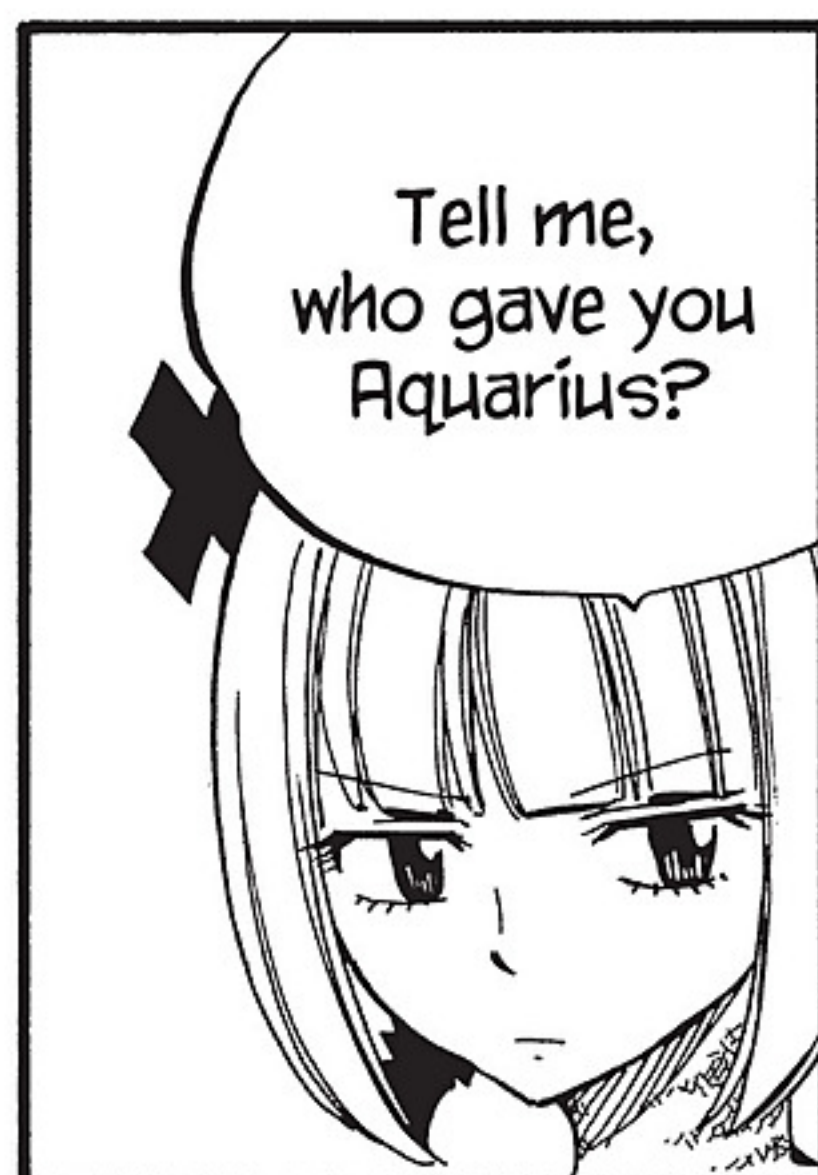
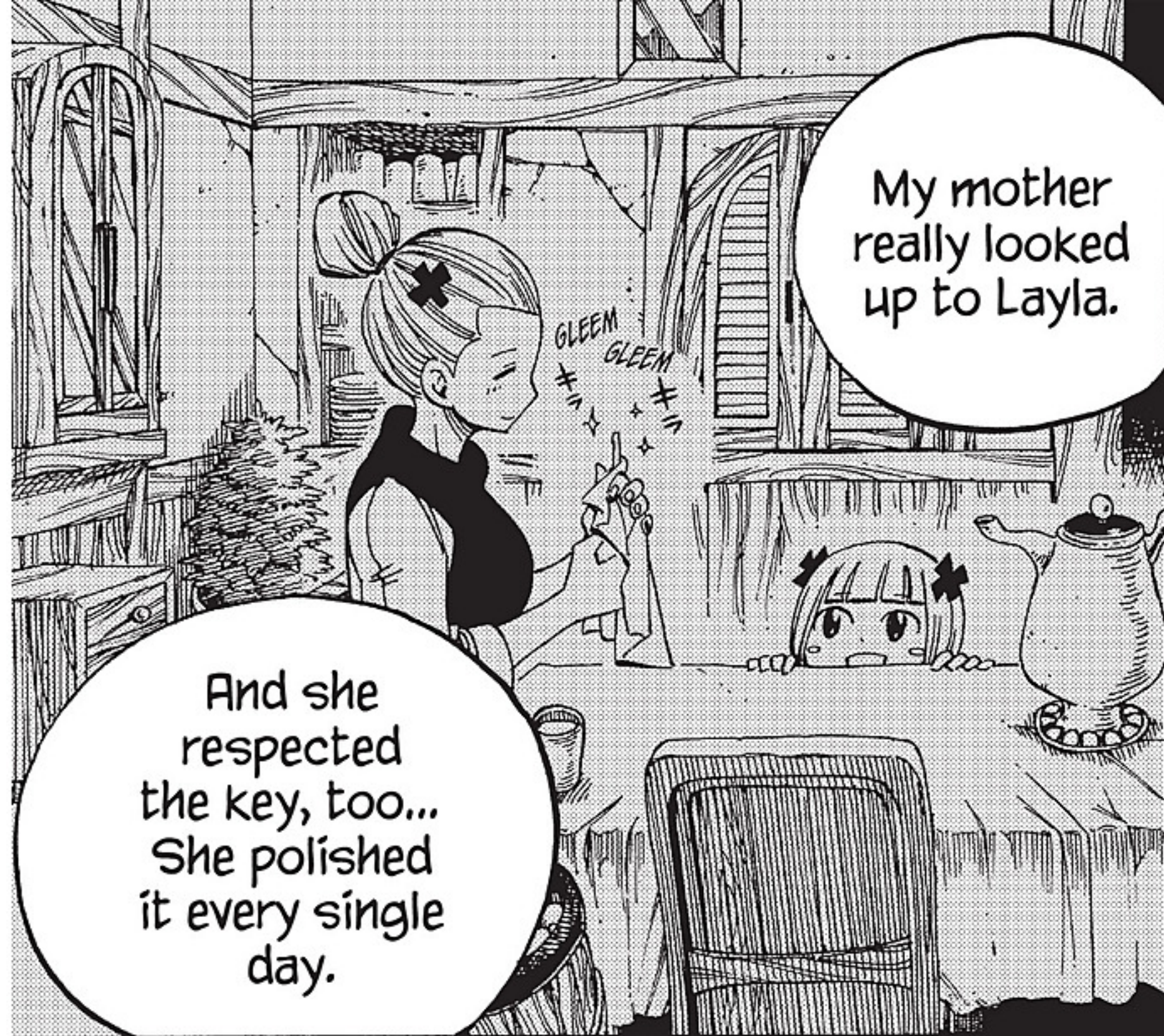




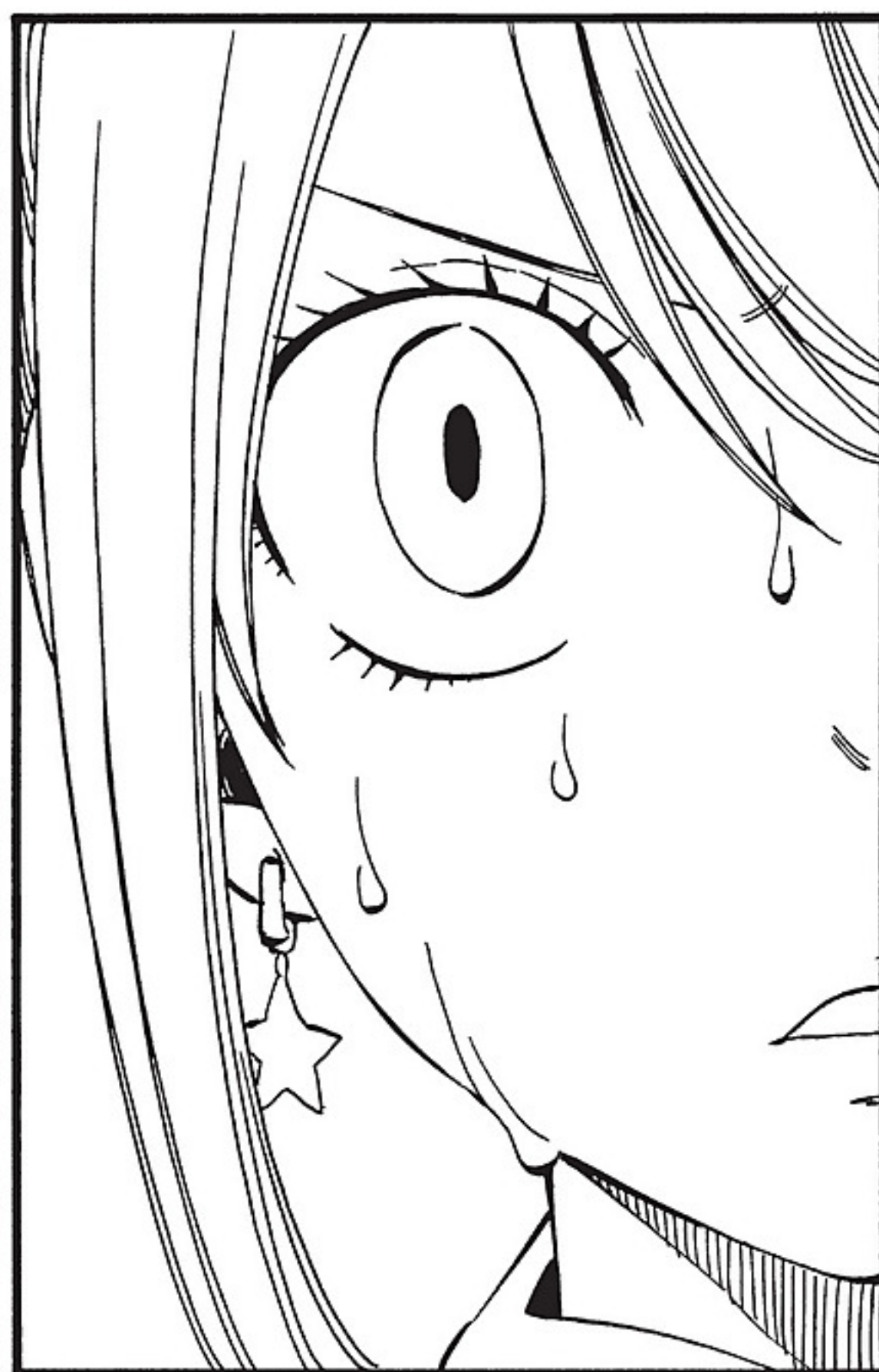




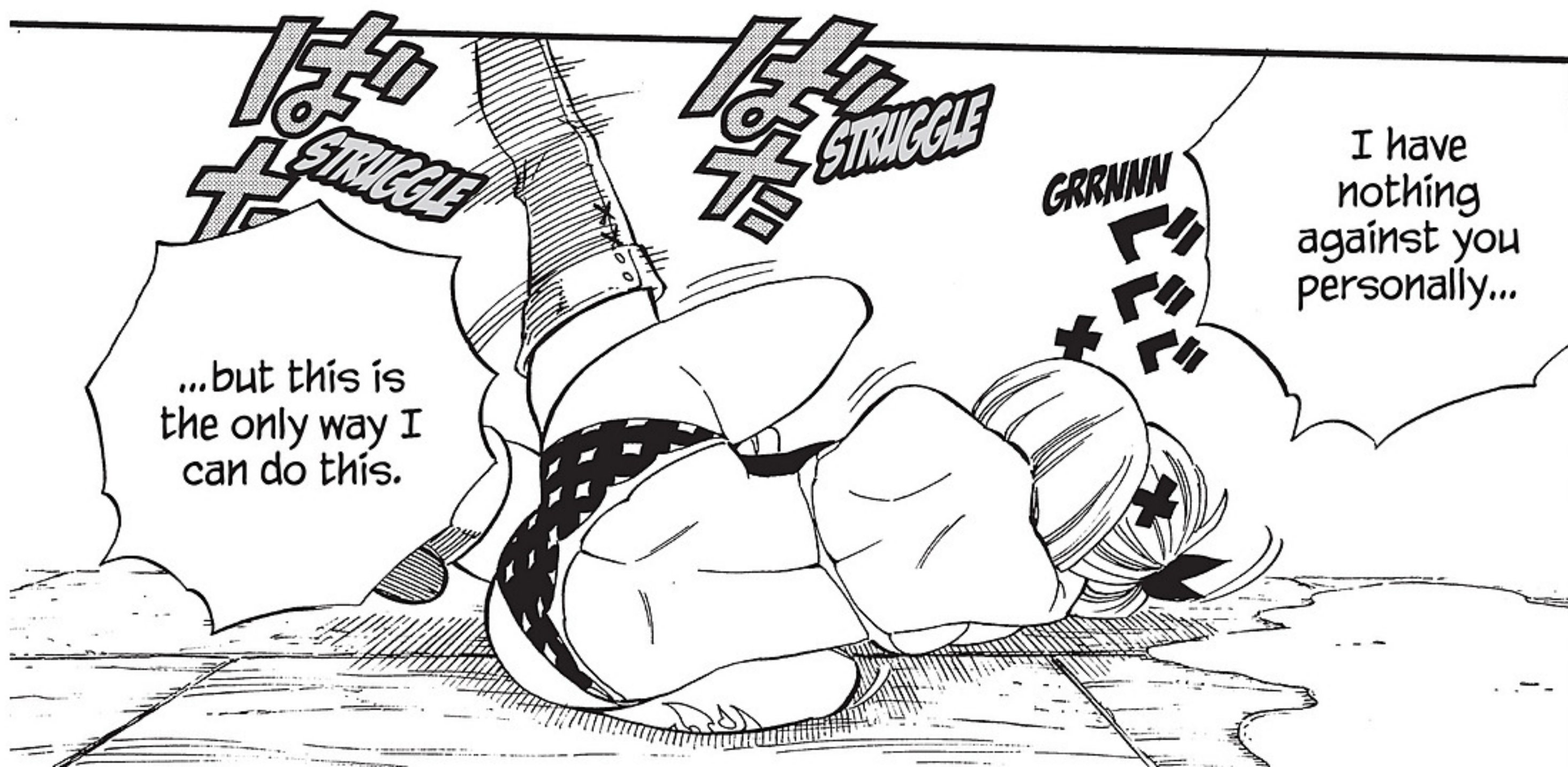
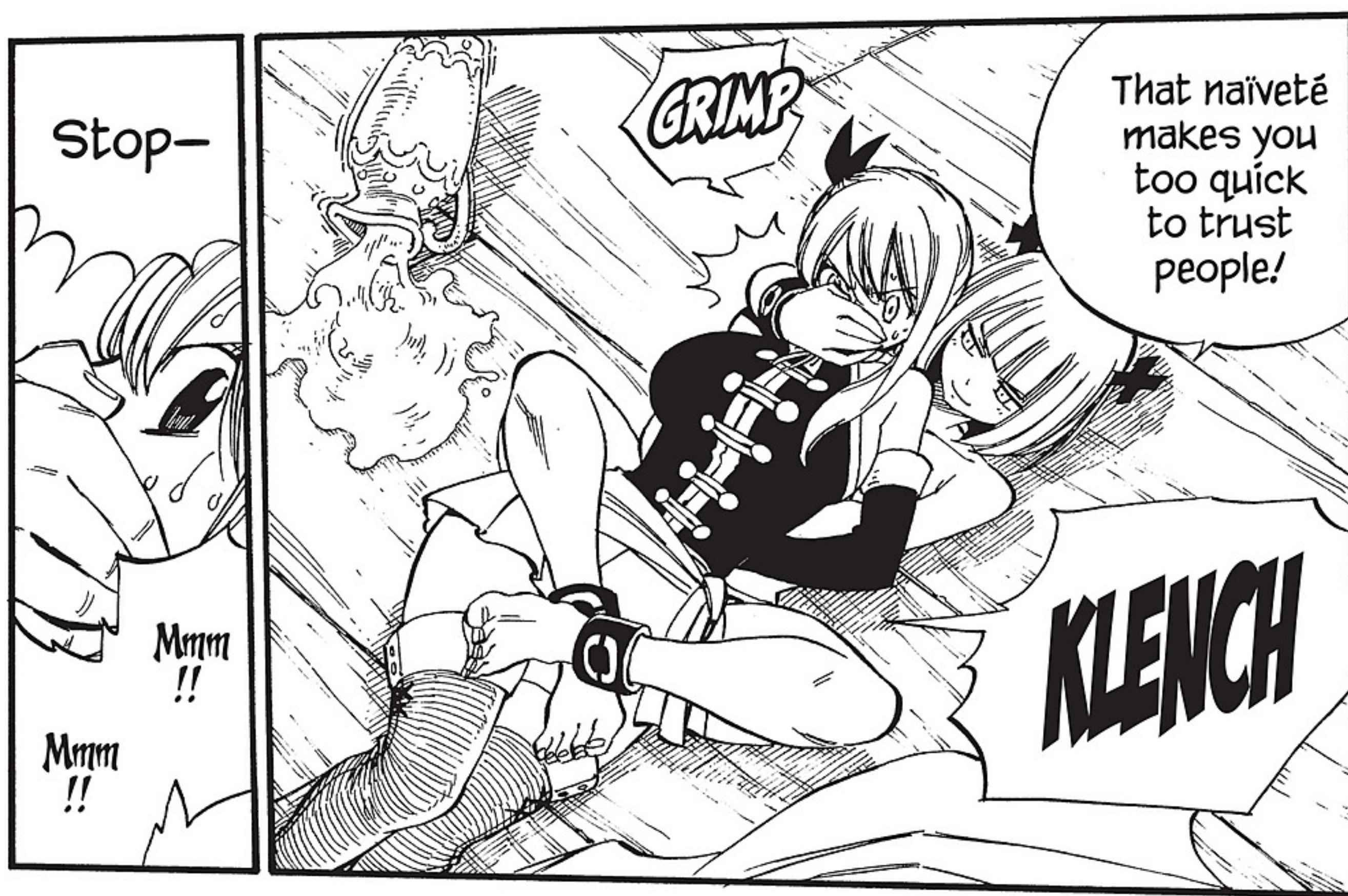
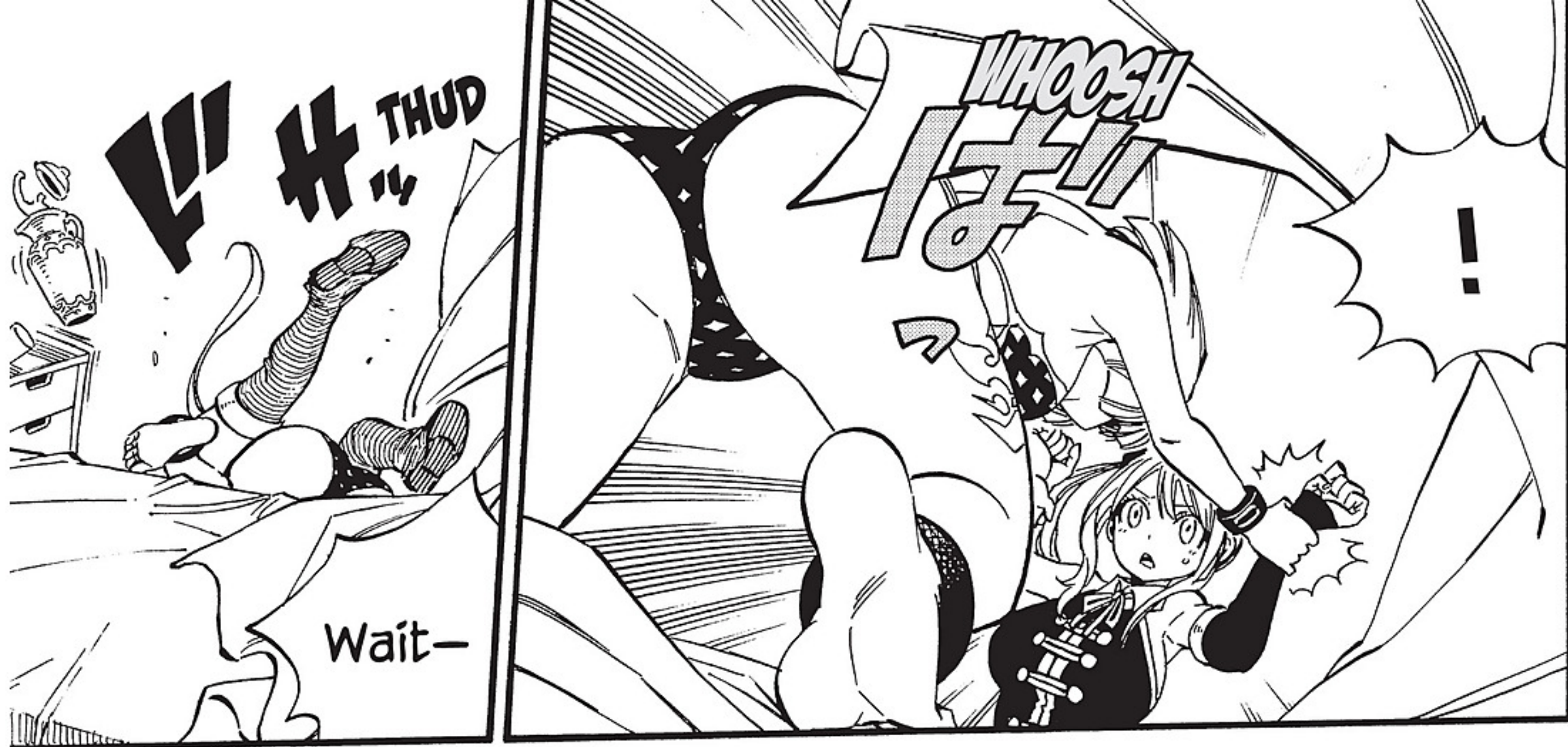




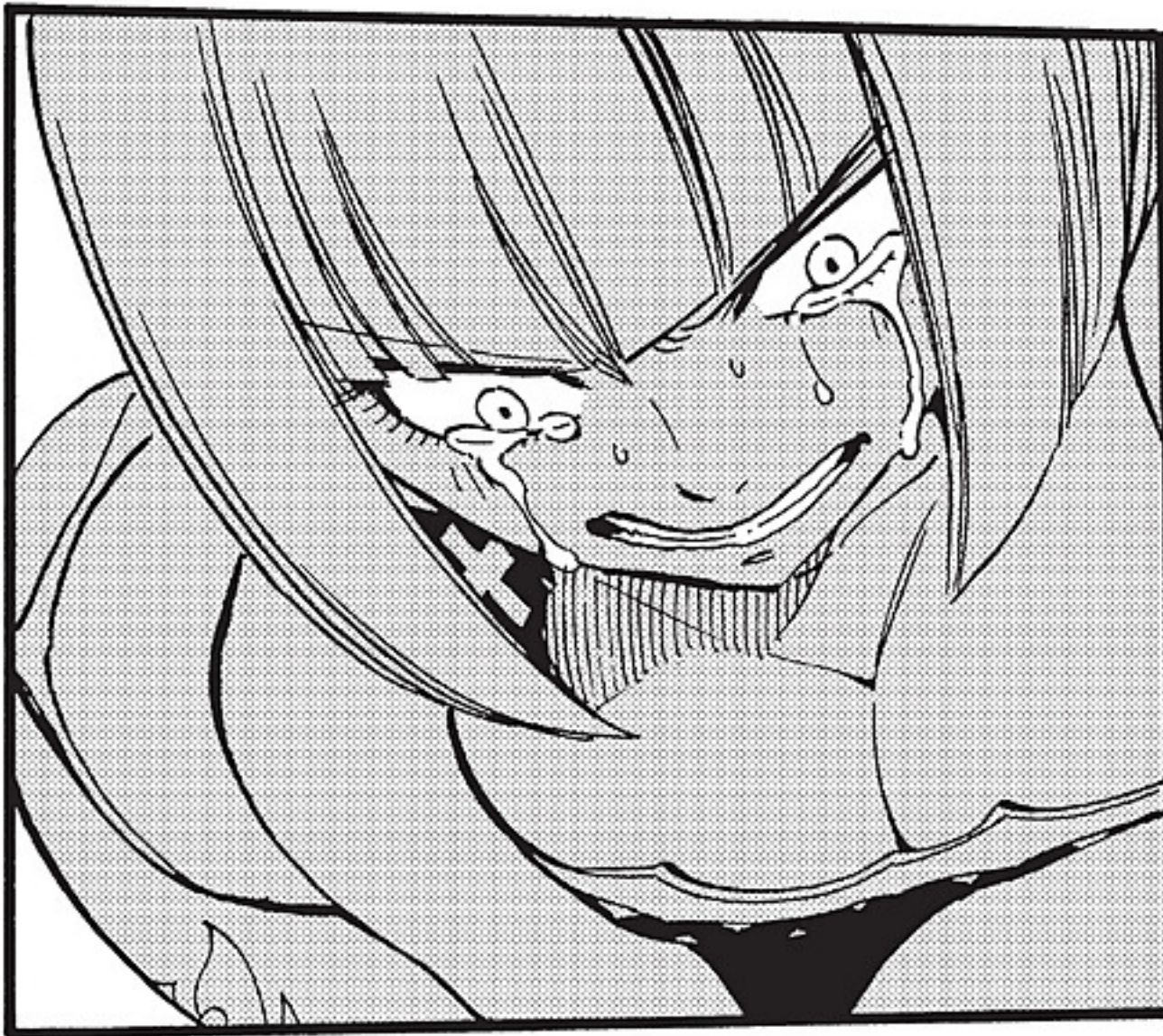
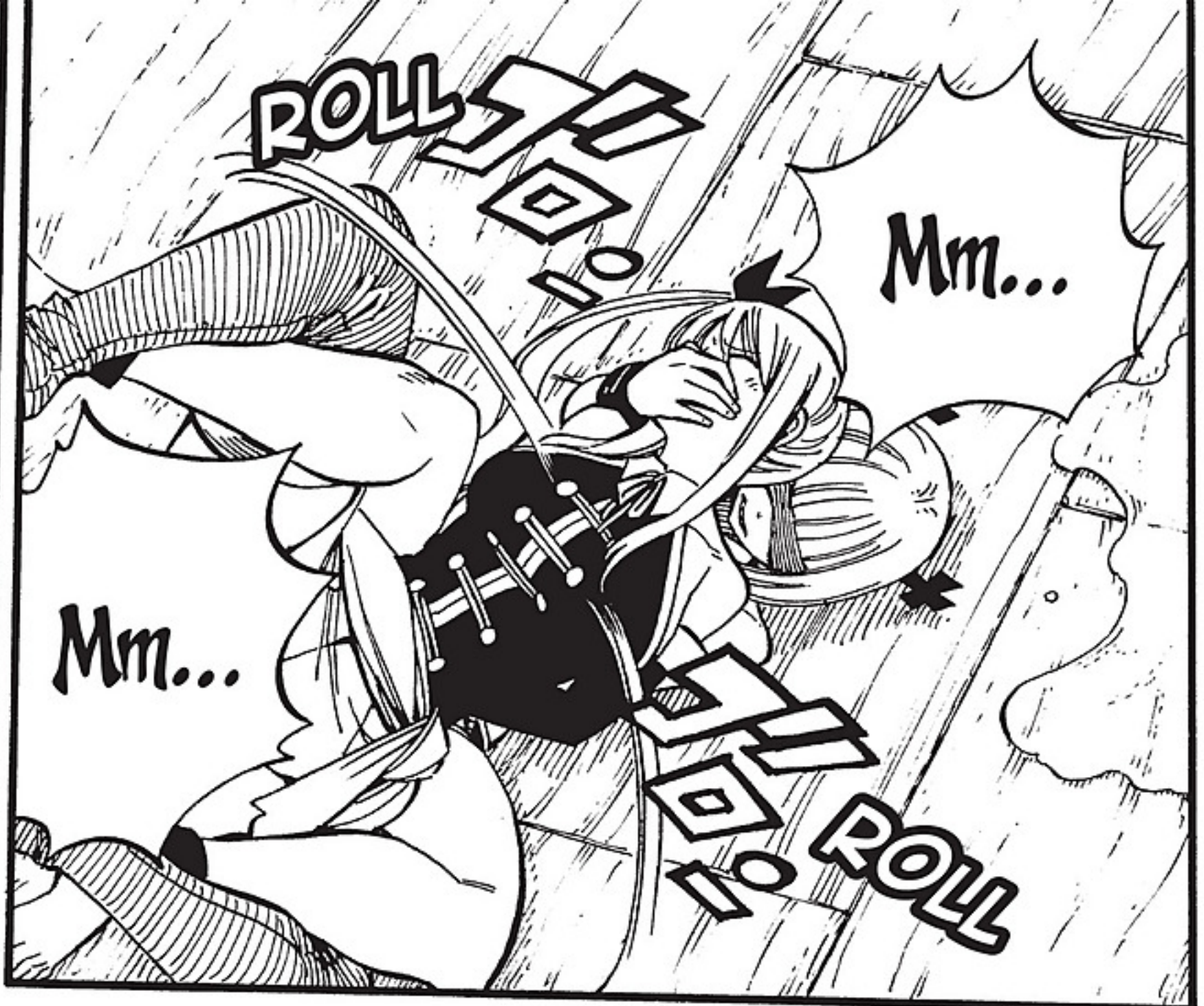
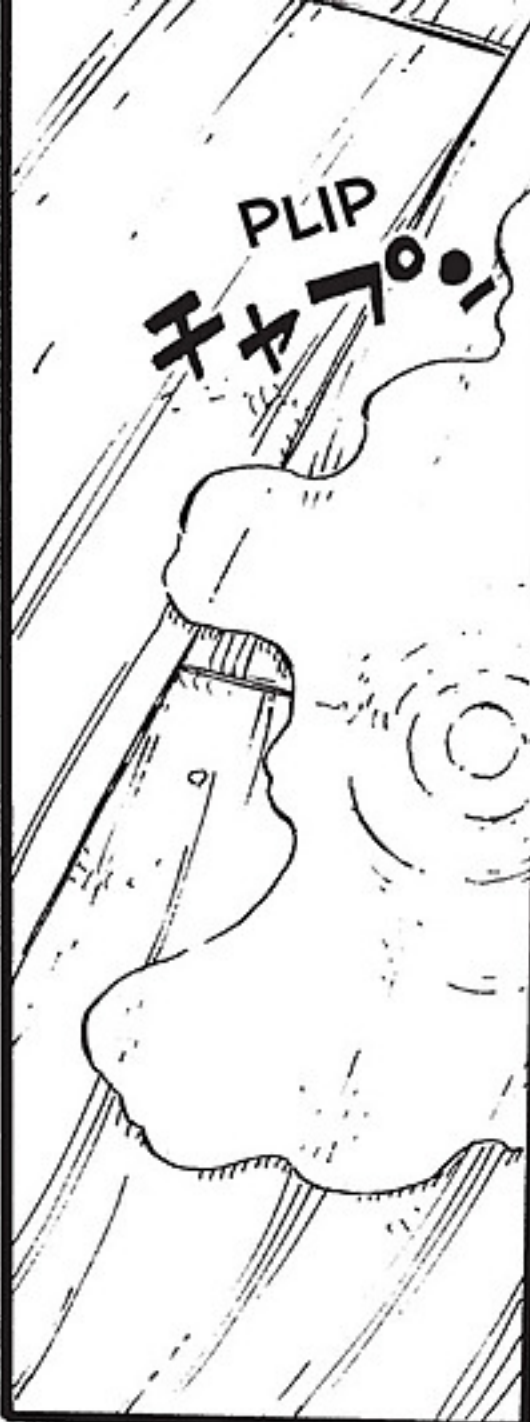
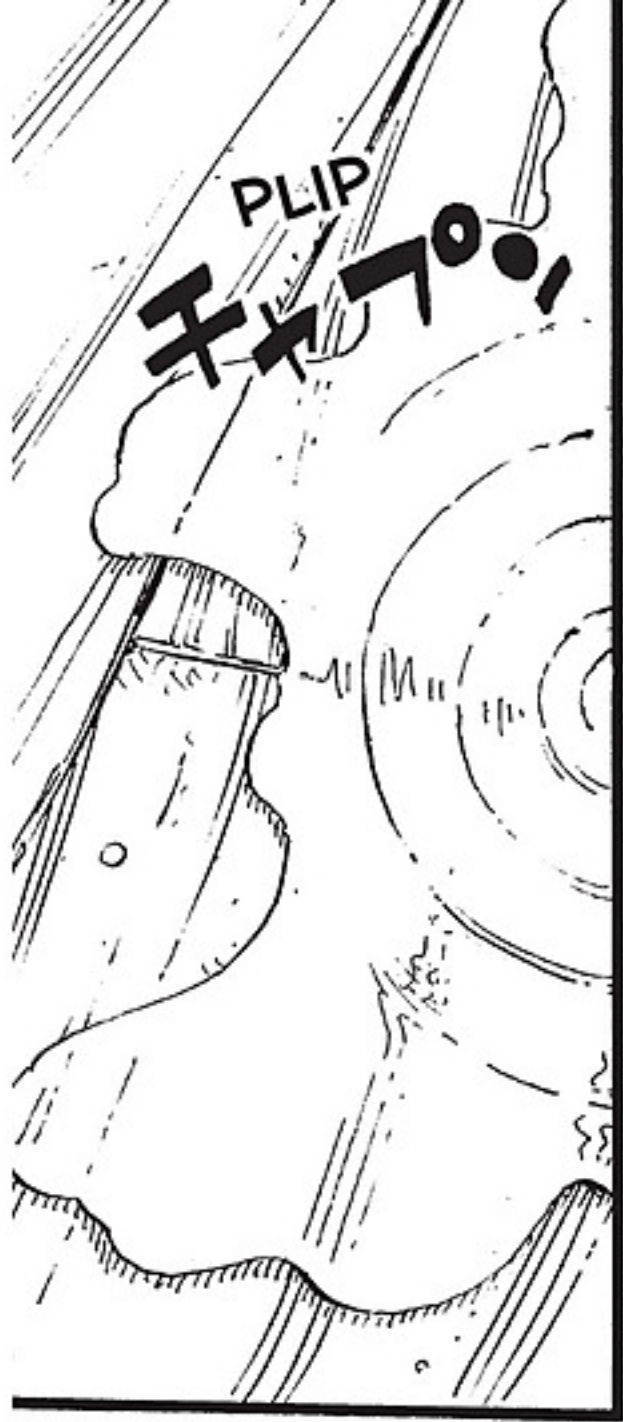




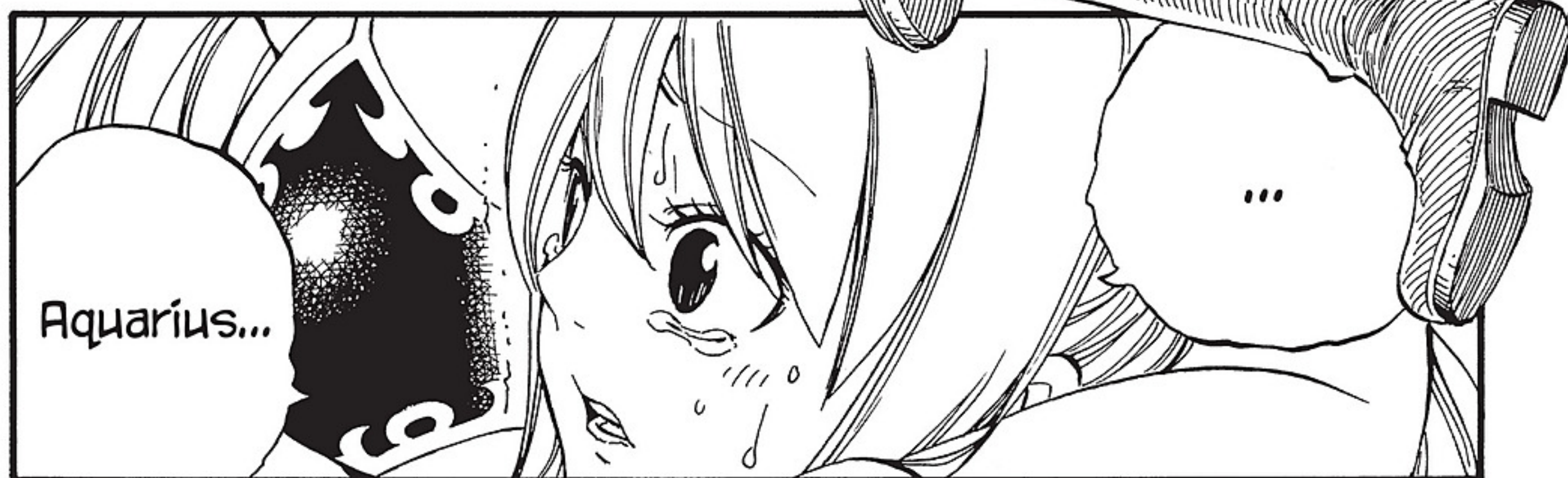




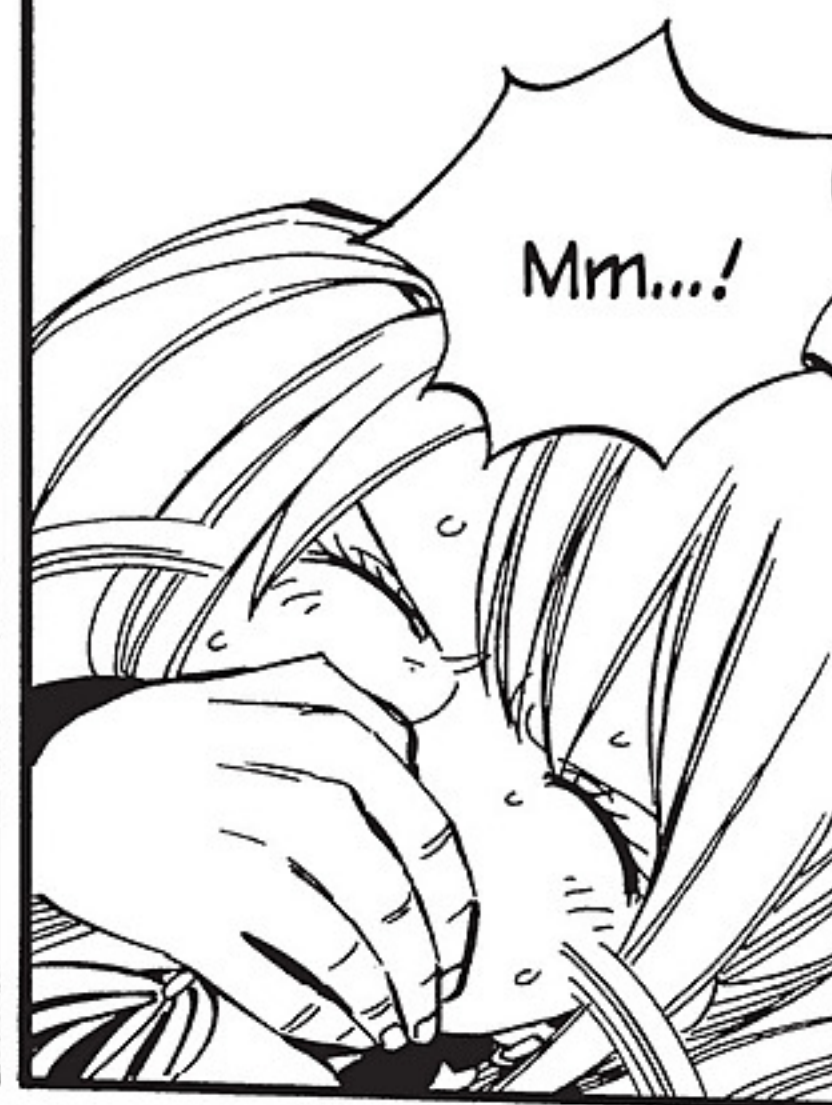










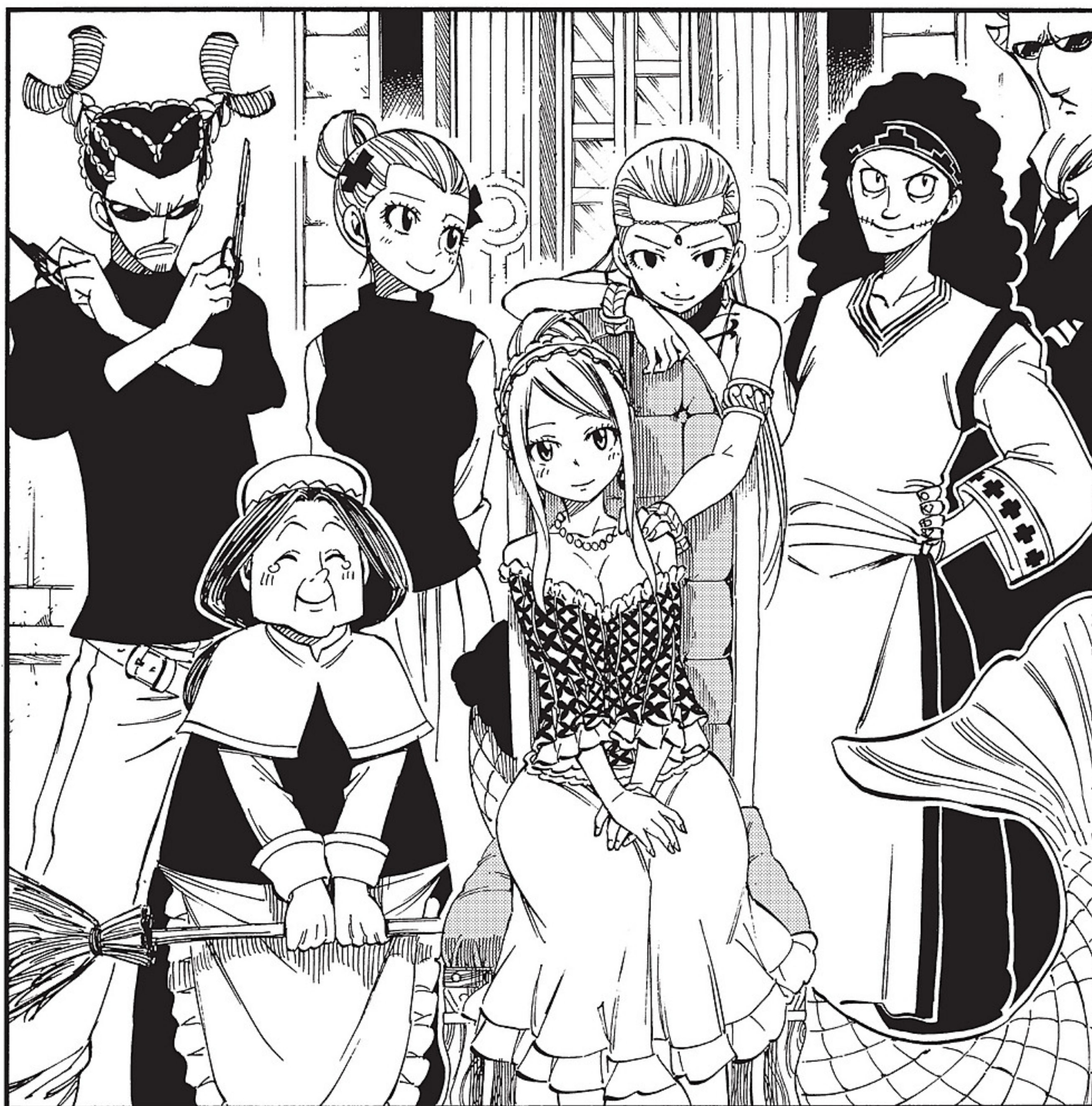




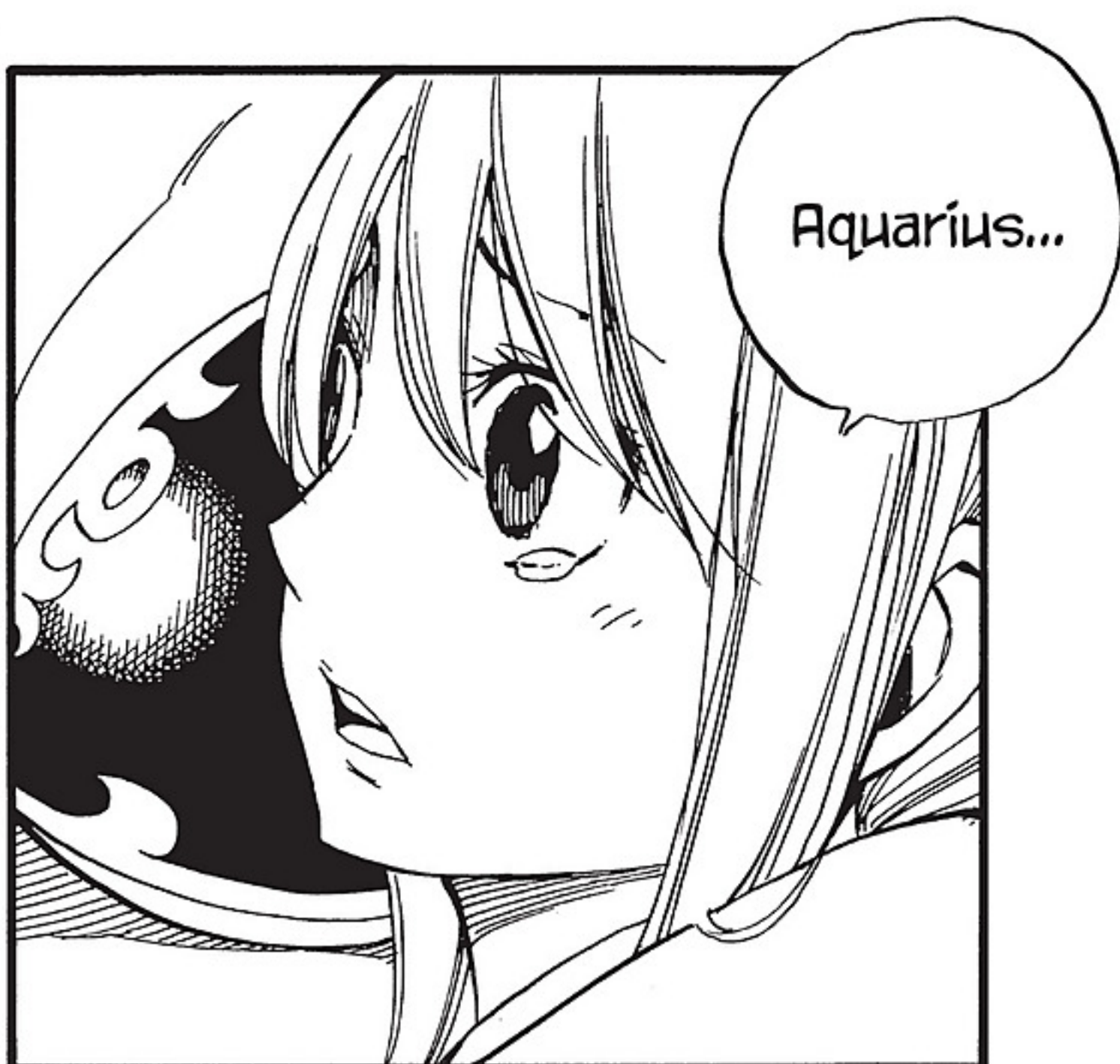
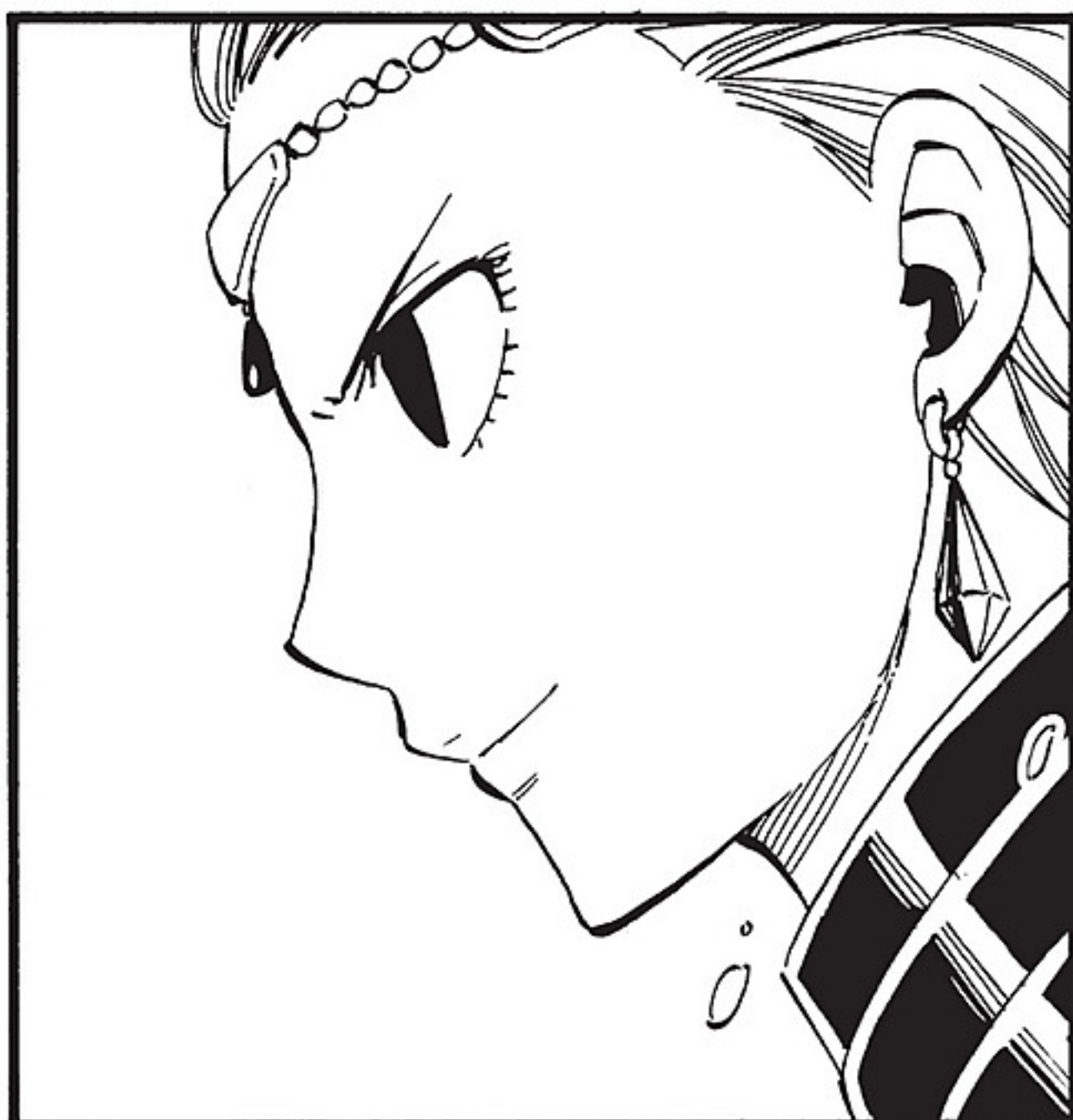
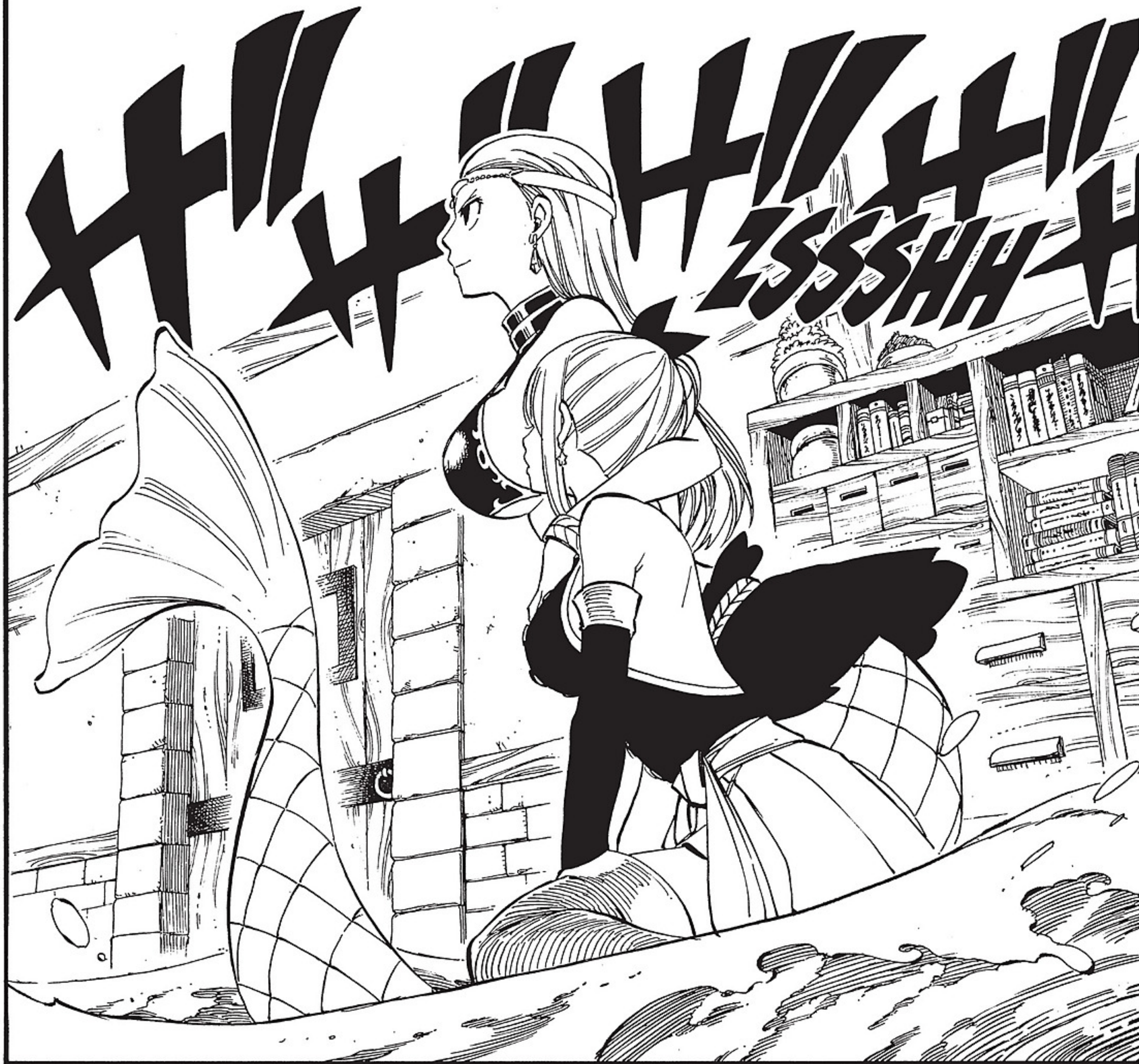
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

## Chapter 468: Star Memory



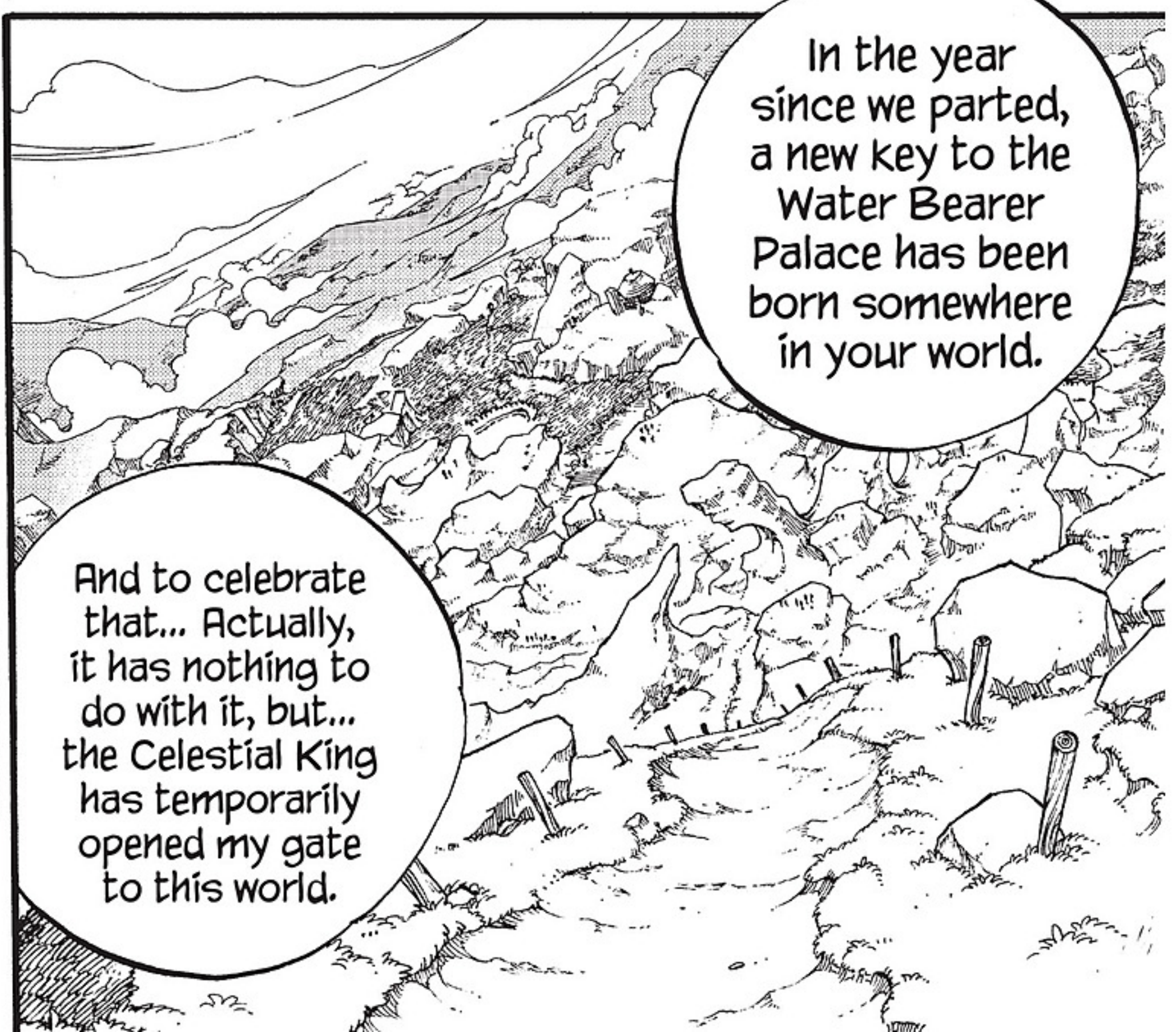
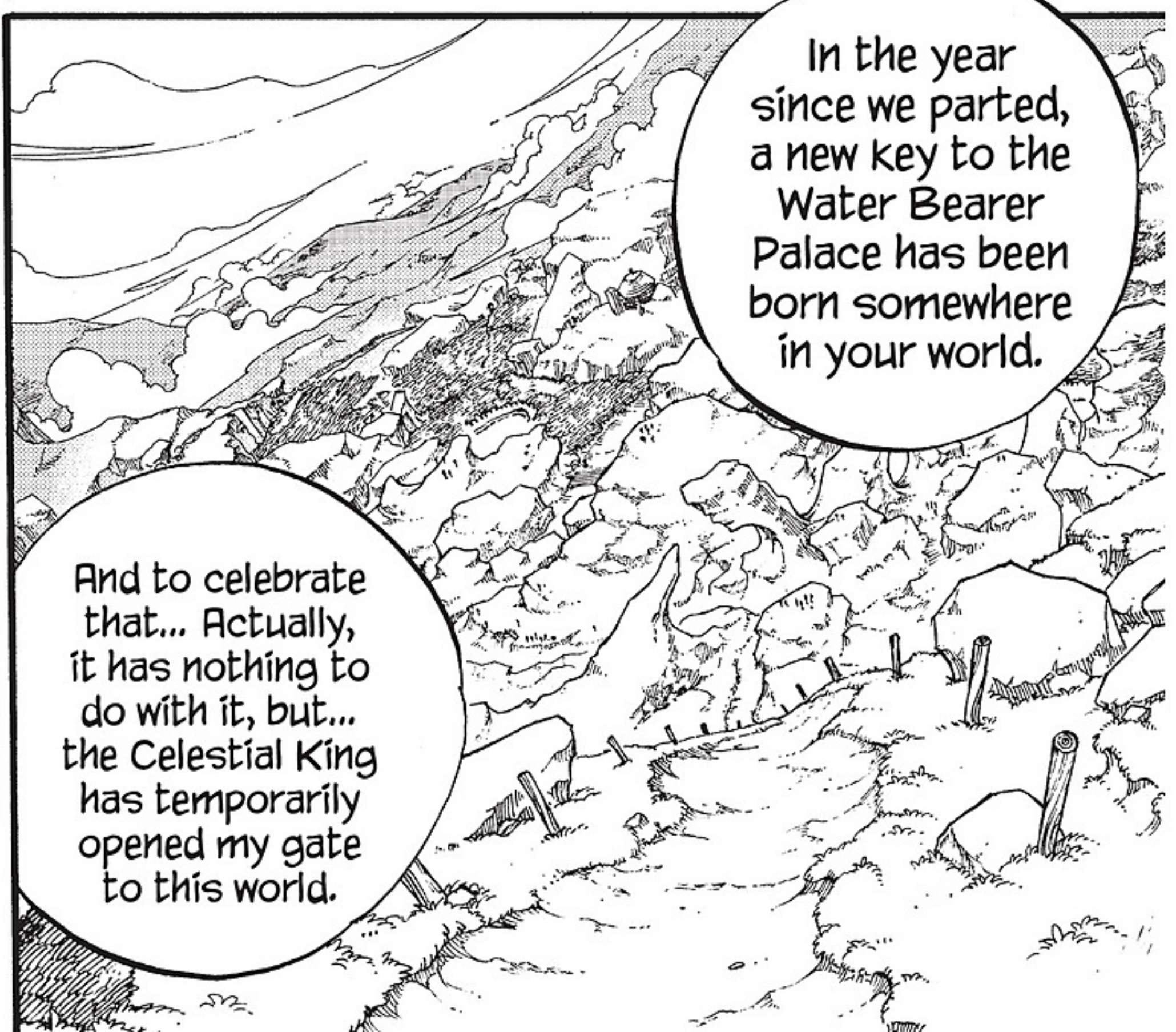
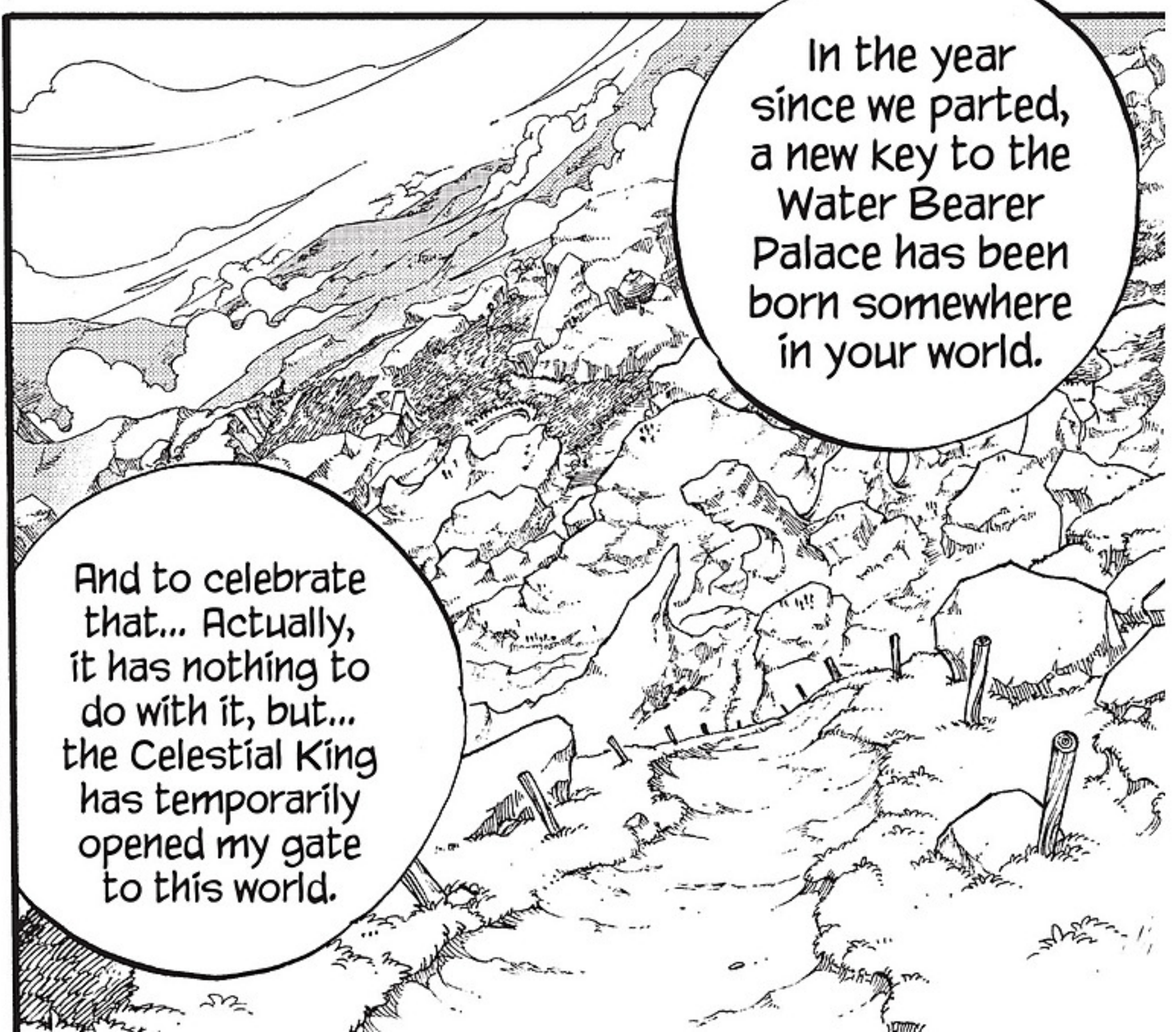
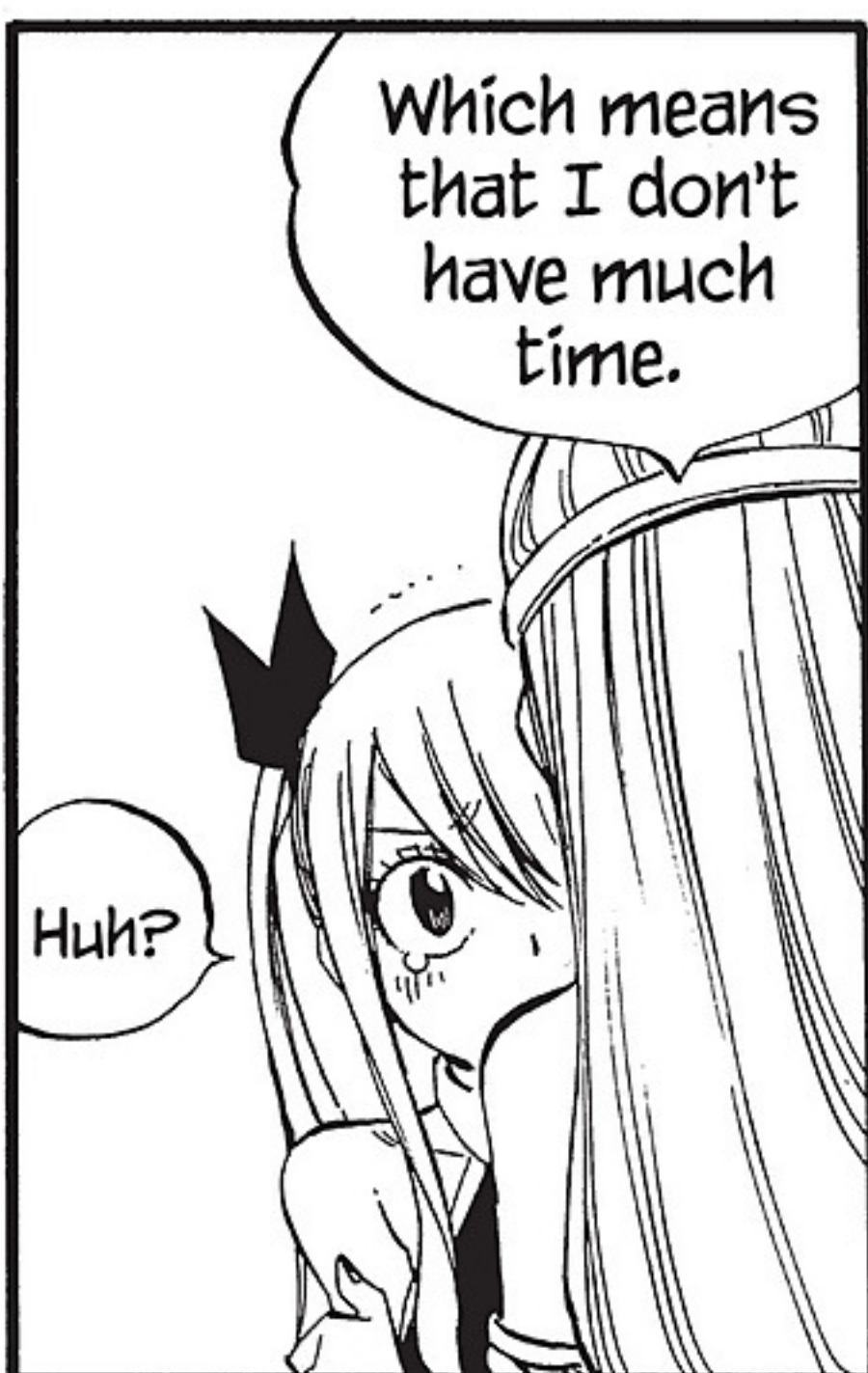
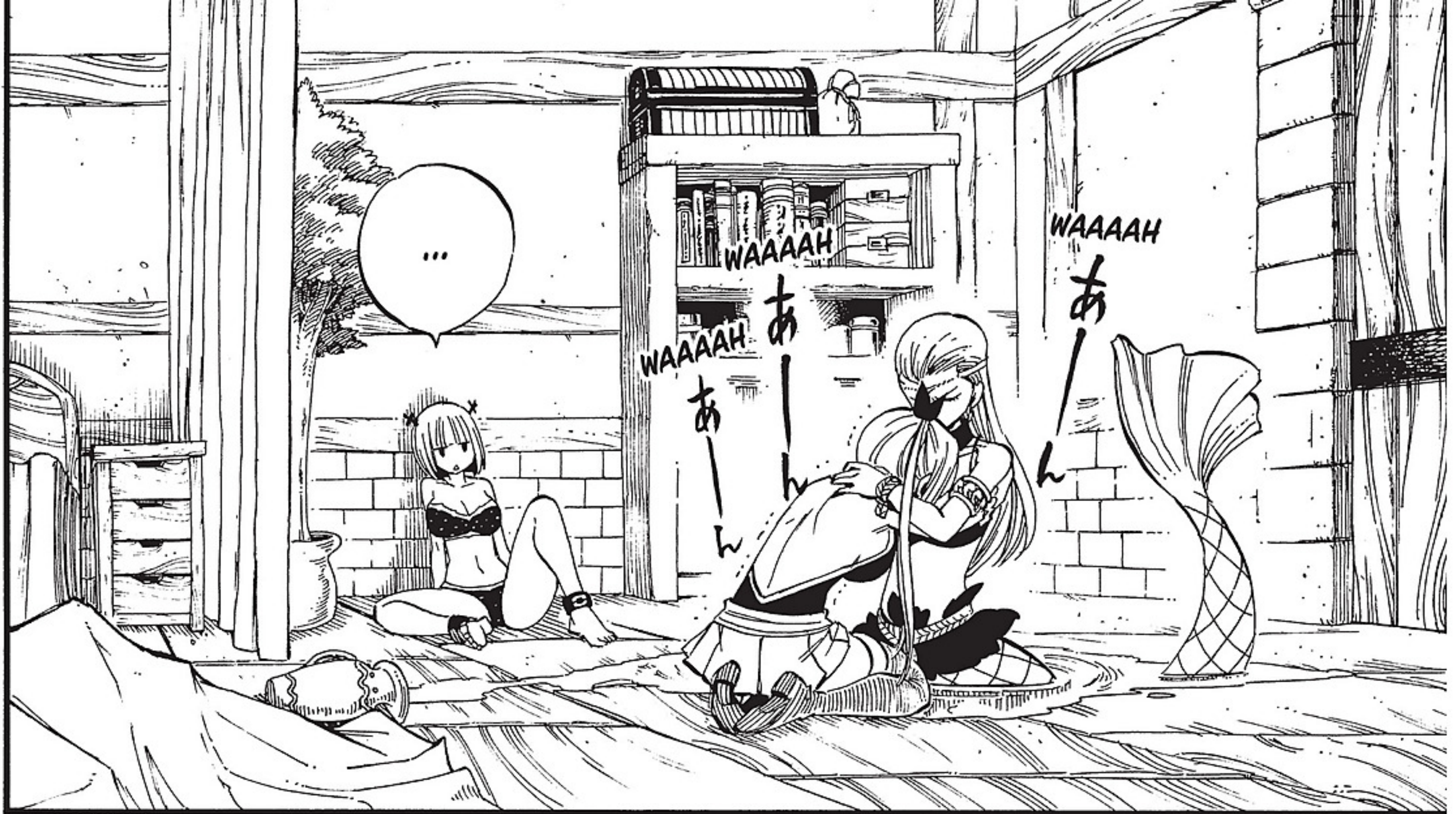




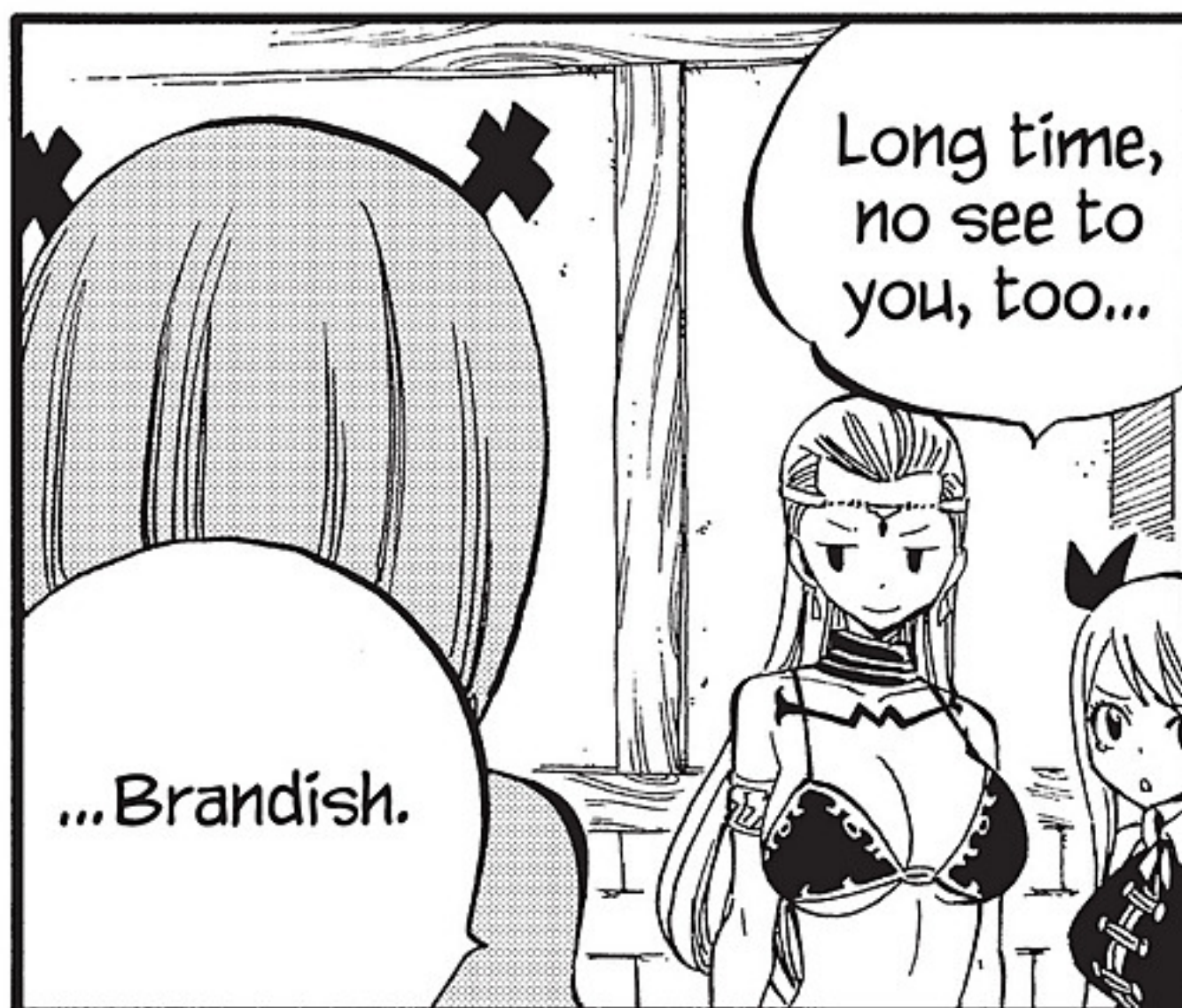












Long time,  
no see to  
you, too...

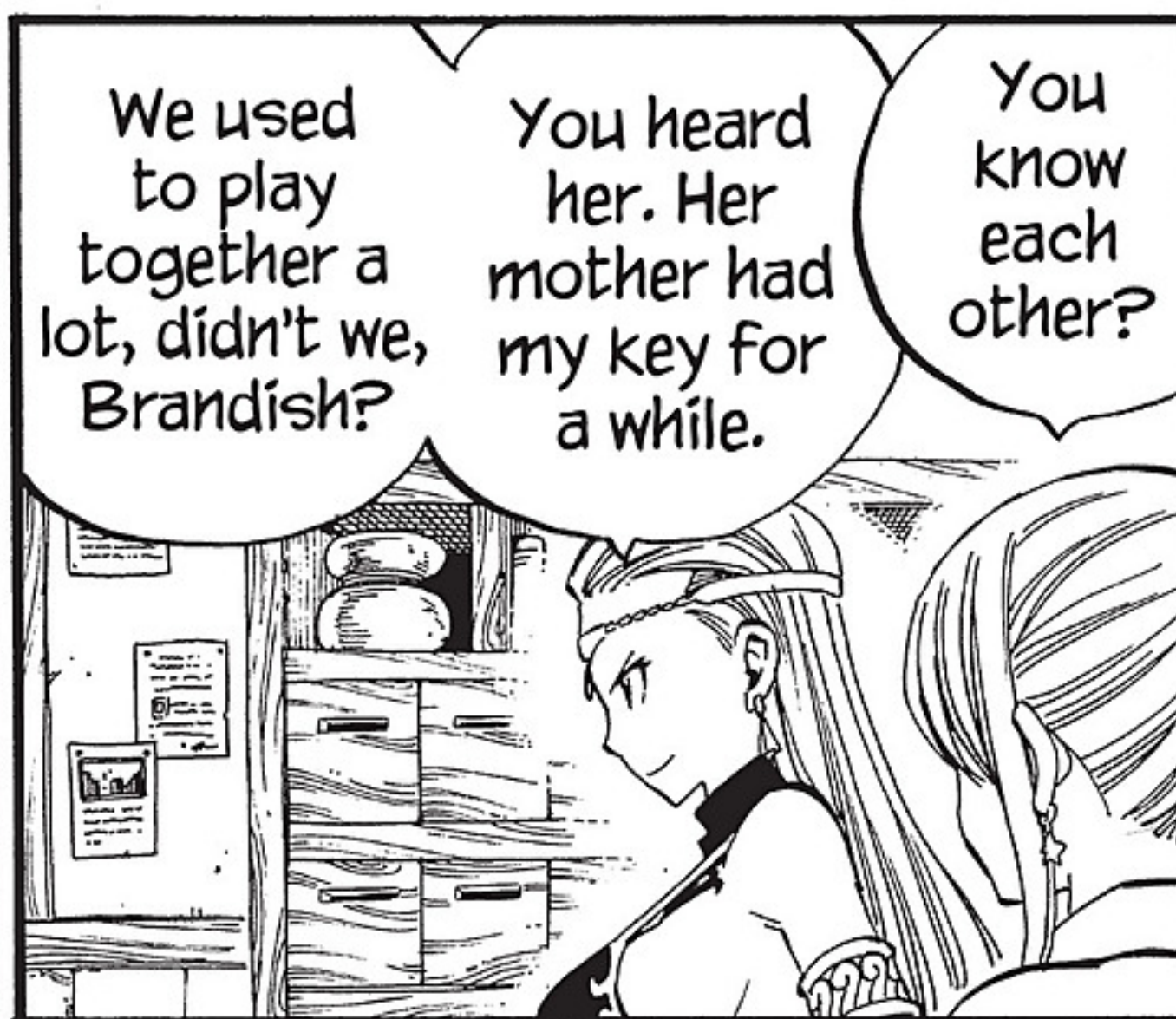
...Brandish.



But...just  
being able to see  
you again at all...  
means so much  
to me...



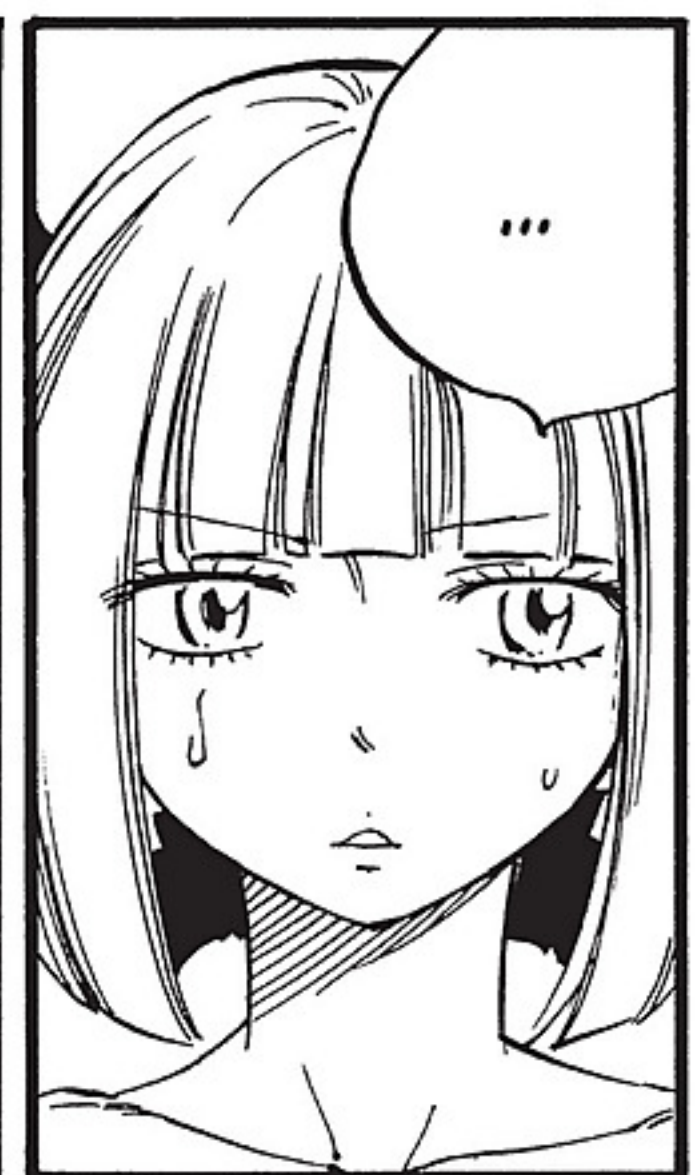
...



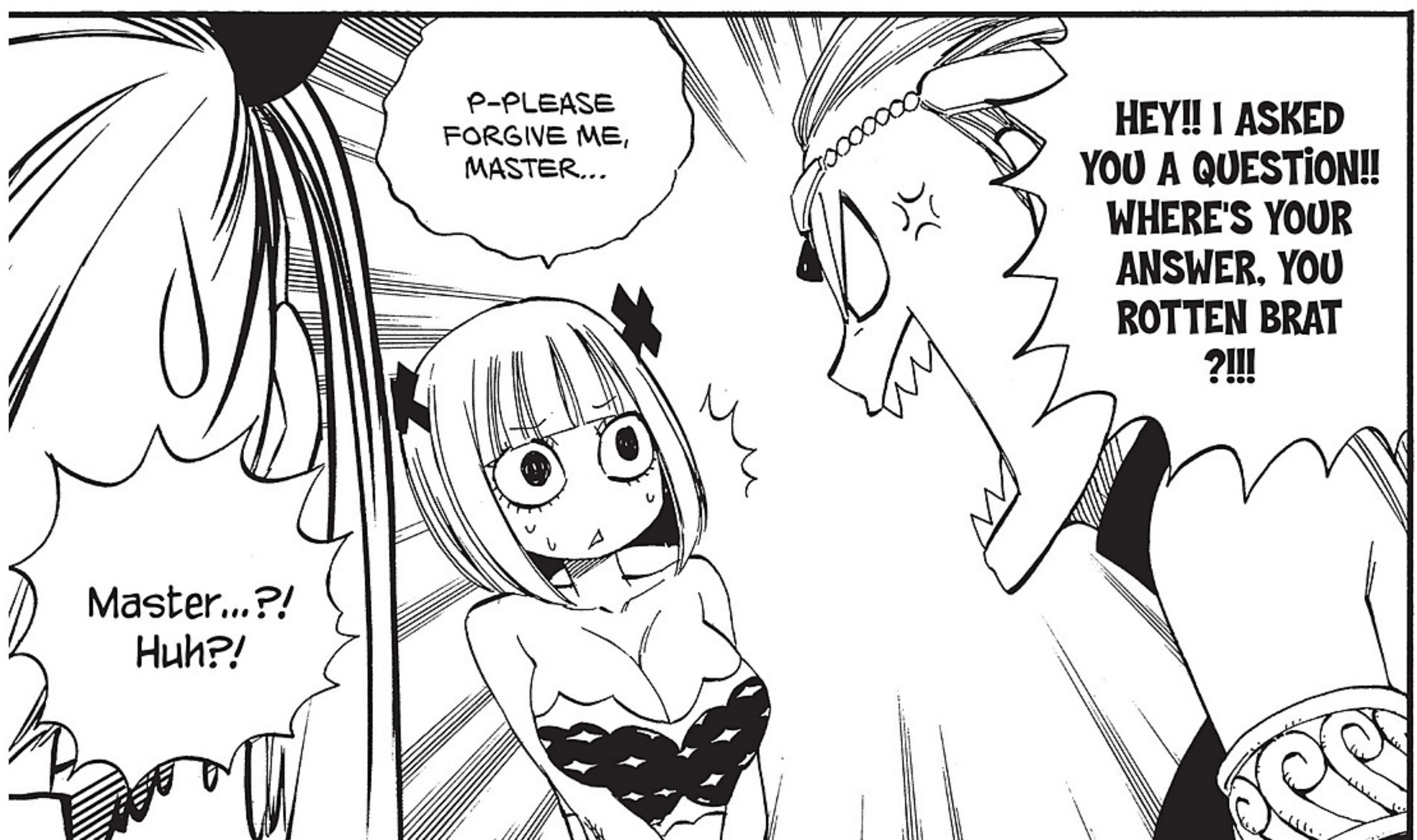
We used  
to play  
together a  
lot, didn't we,  
Brandish?

You heard  
her. Her  
mother had  
my key for  
a while.

You  
know  
each  
other?



...

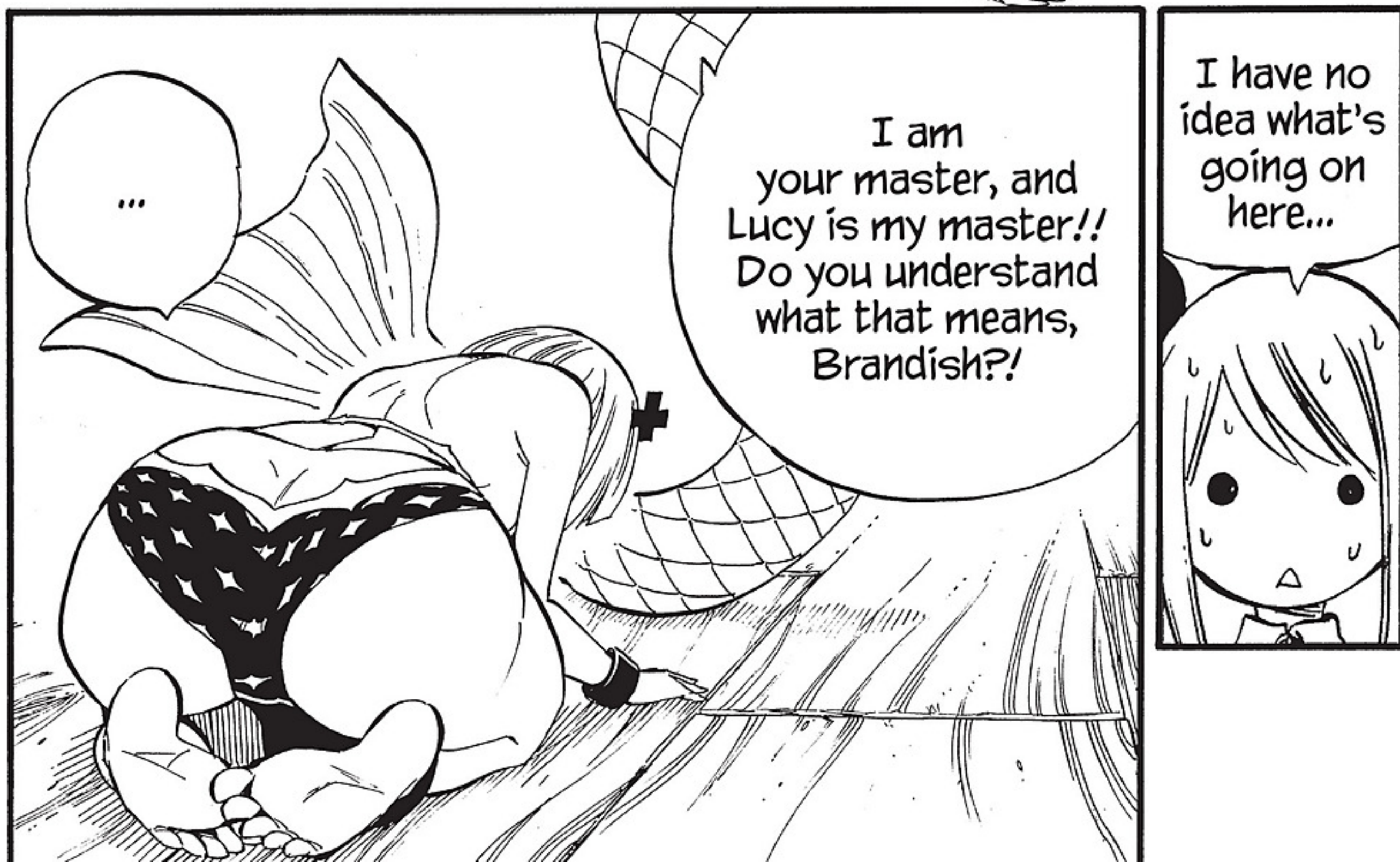
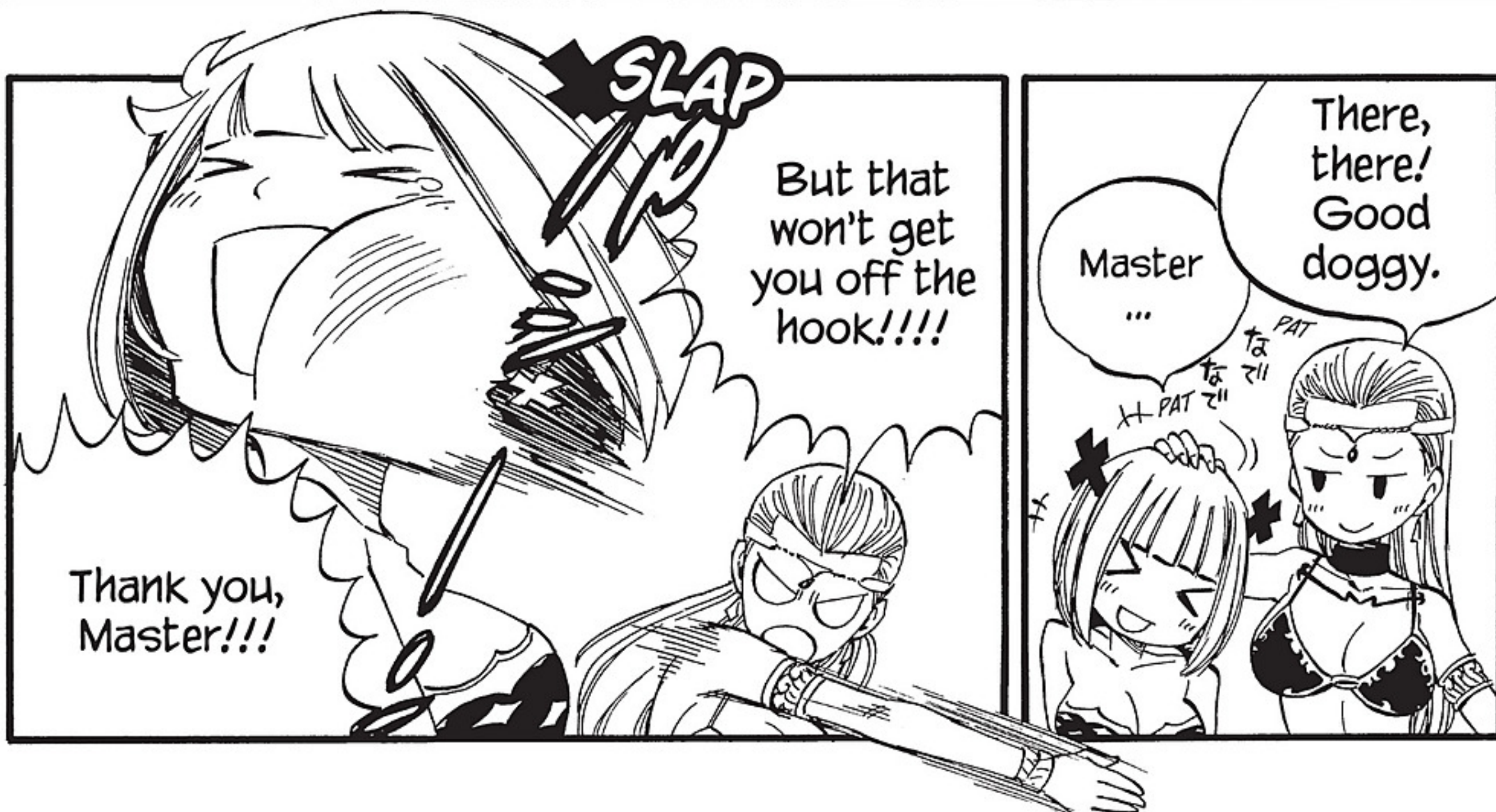
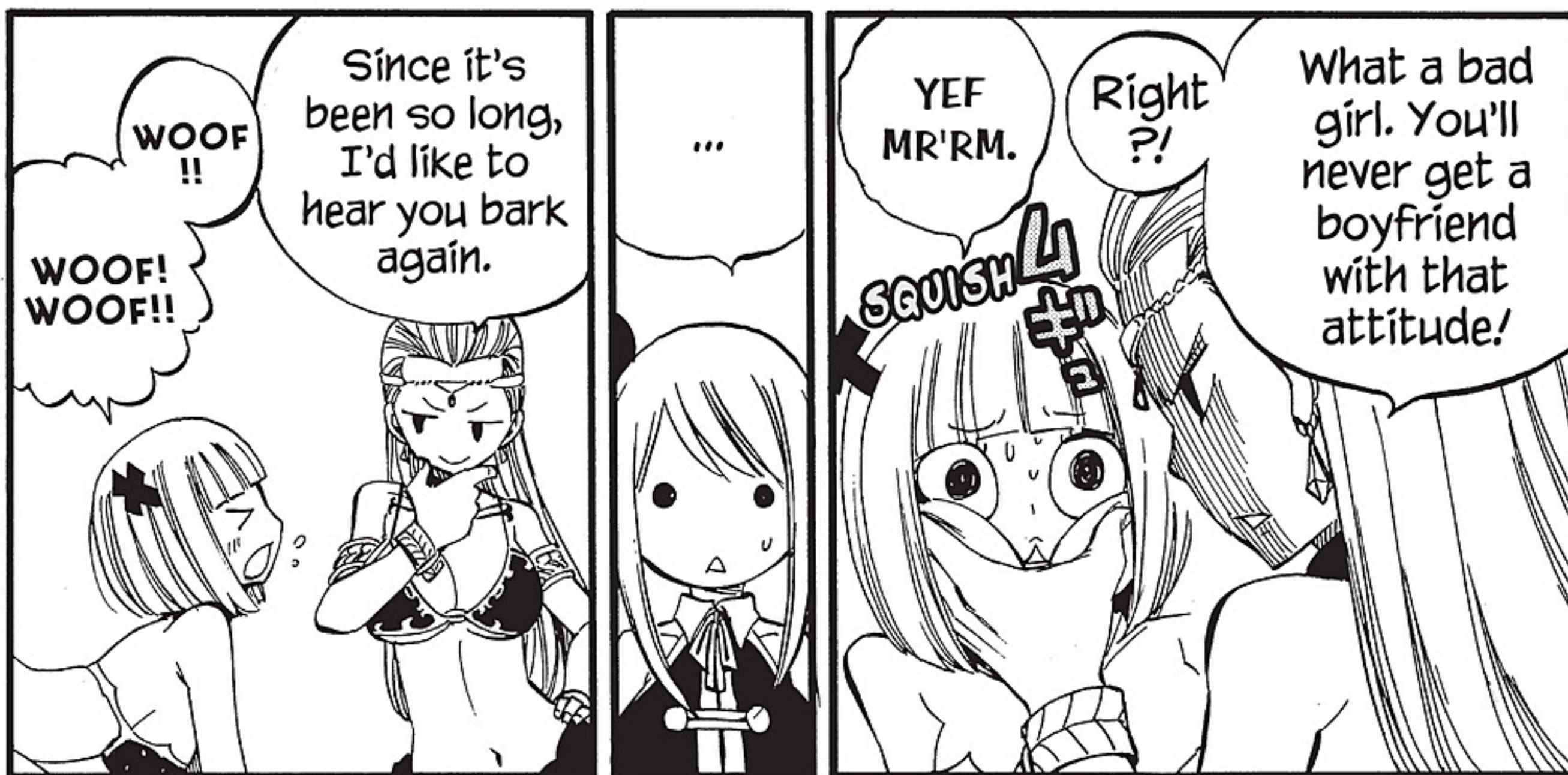


P-PLEASE  
FORGIVE ME,  
MASTER...

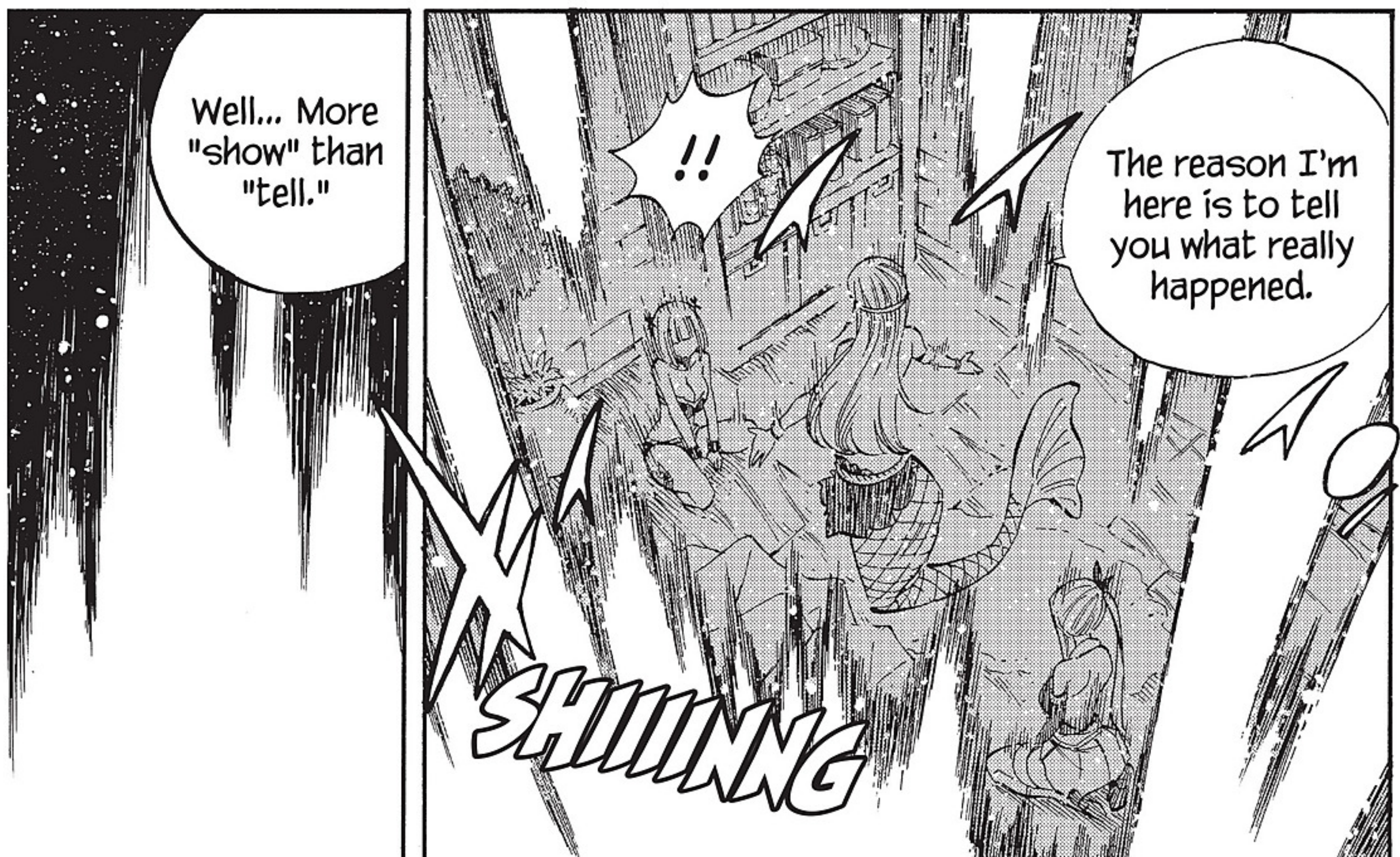
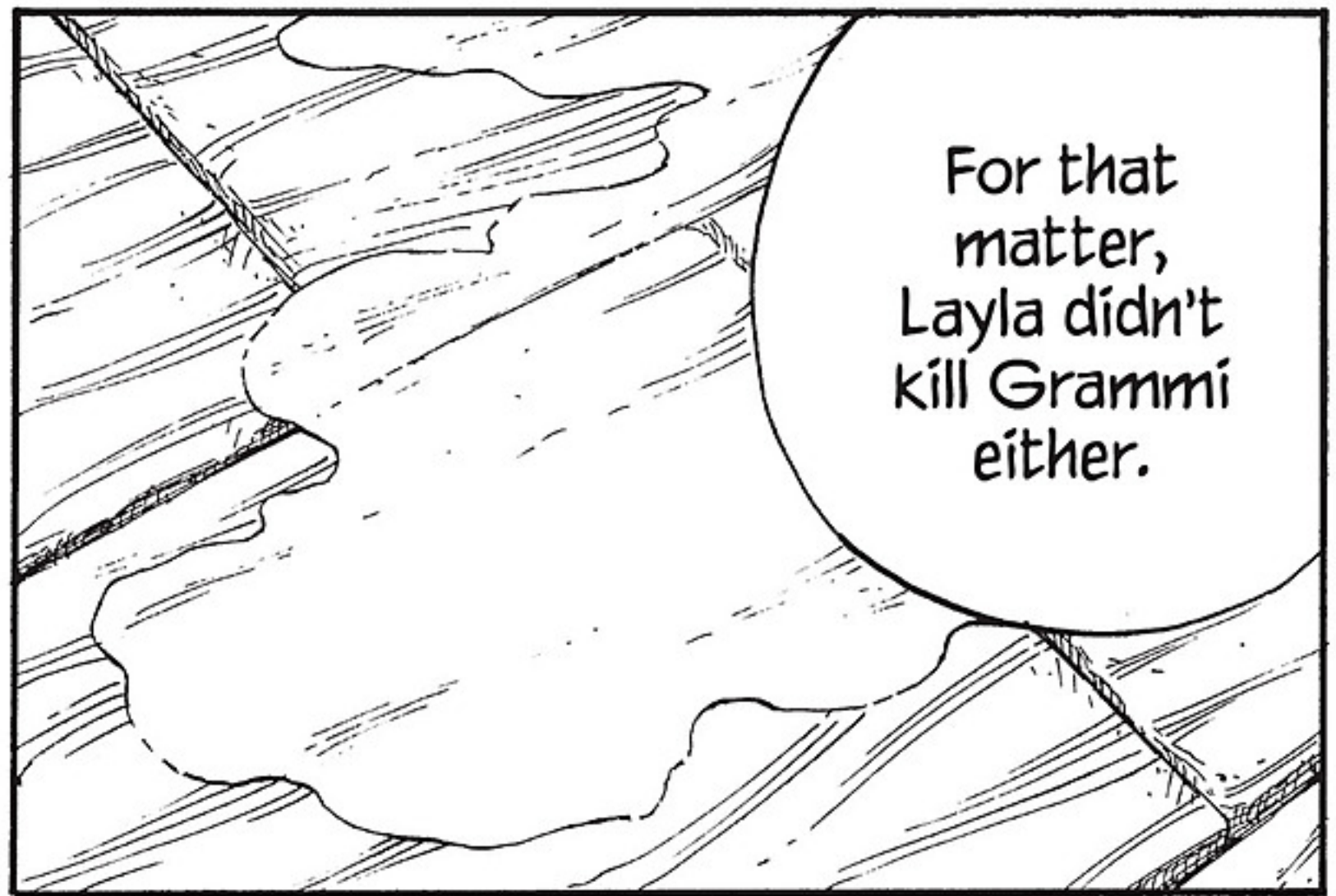
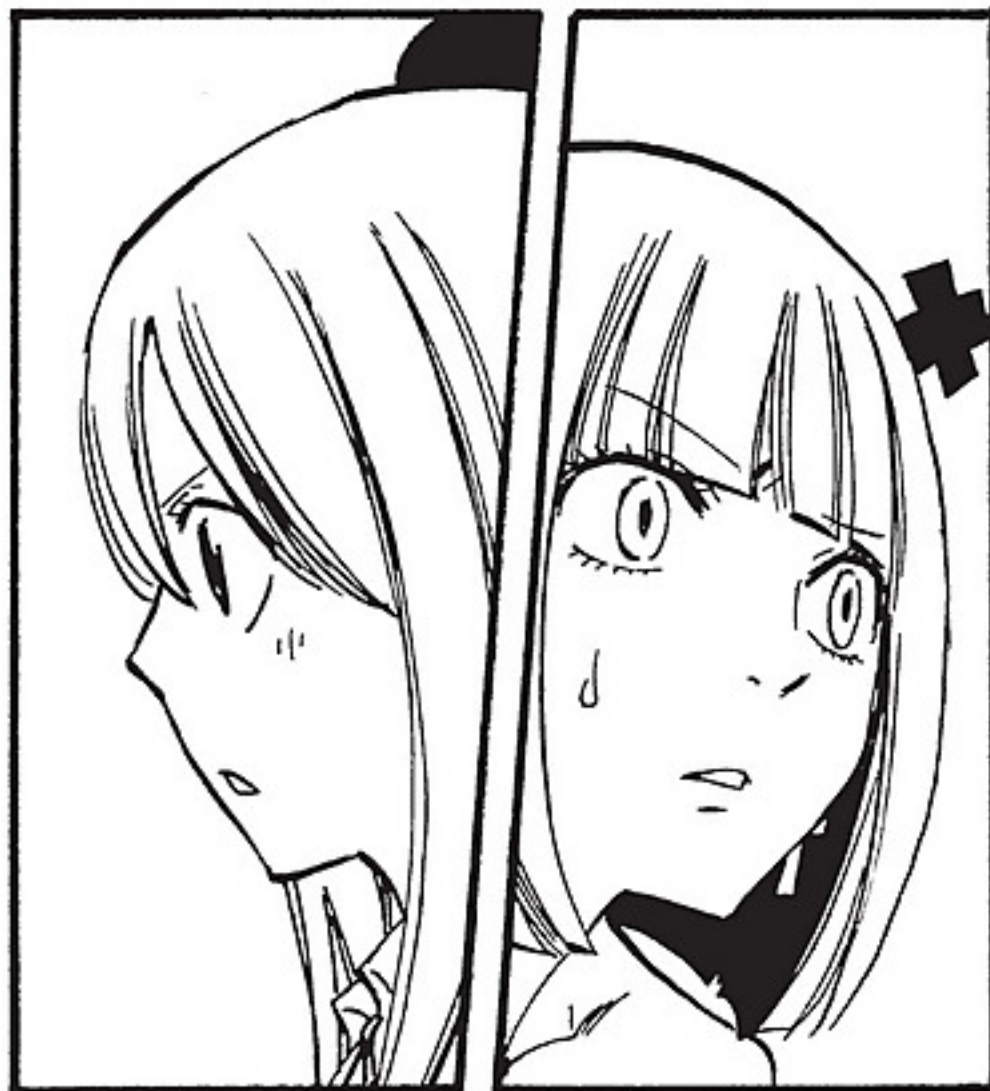
HEY!! I ASKED  
YOU A QUESTION!!  
WHERE'S YOUR  
ANSWER, YOU  
ROTTEN BRAT  
?!!!

Master...?!  
Huh?!

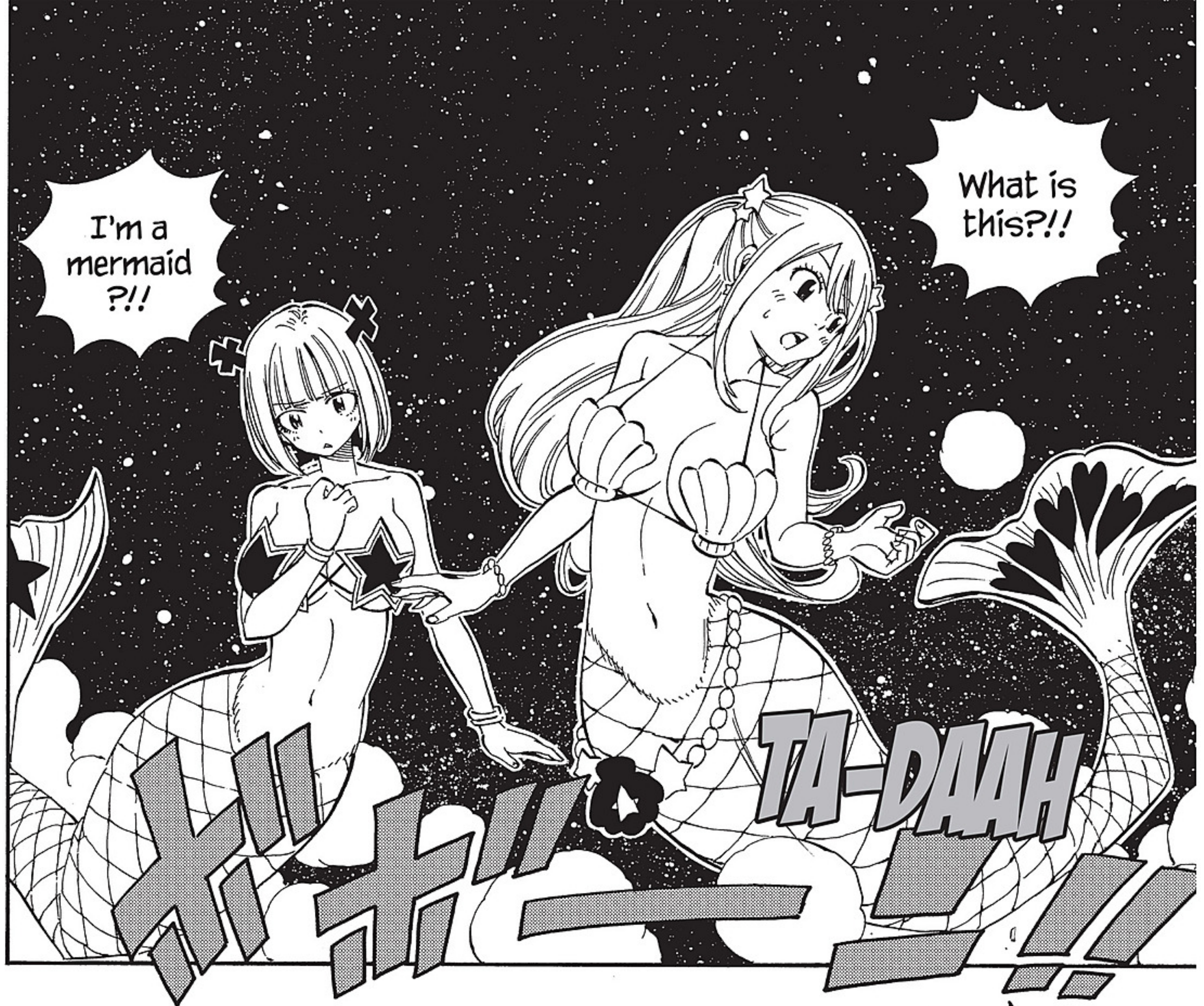




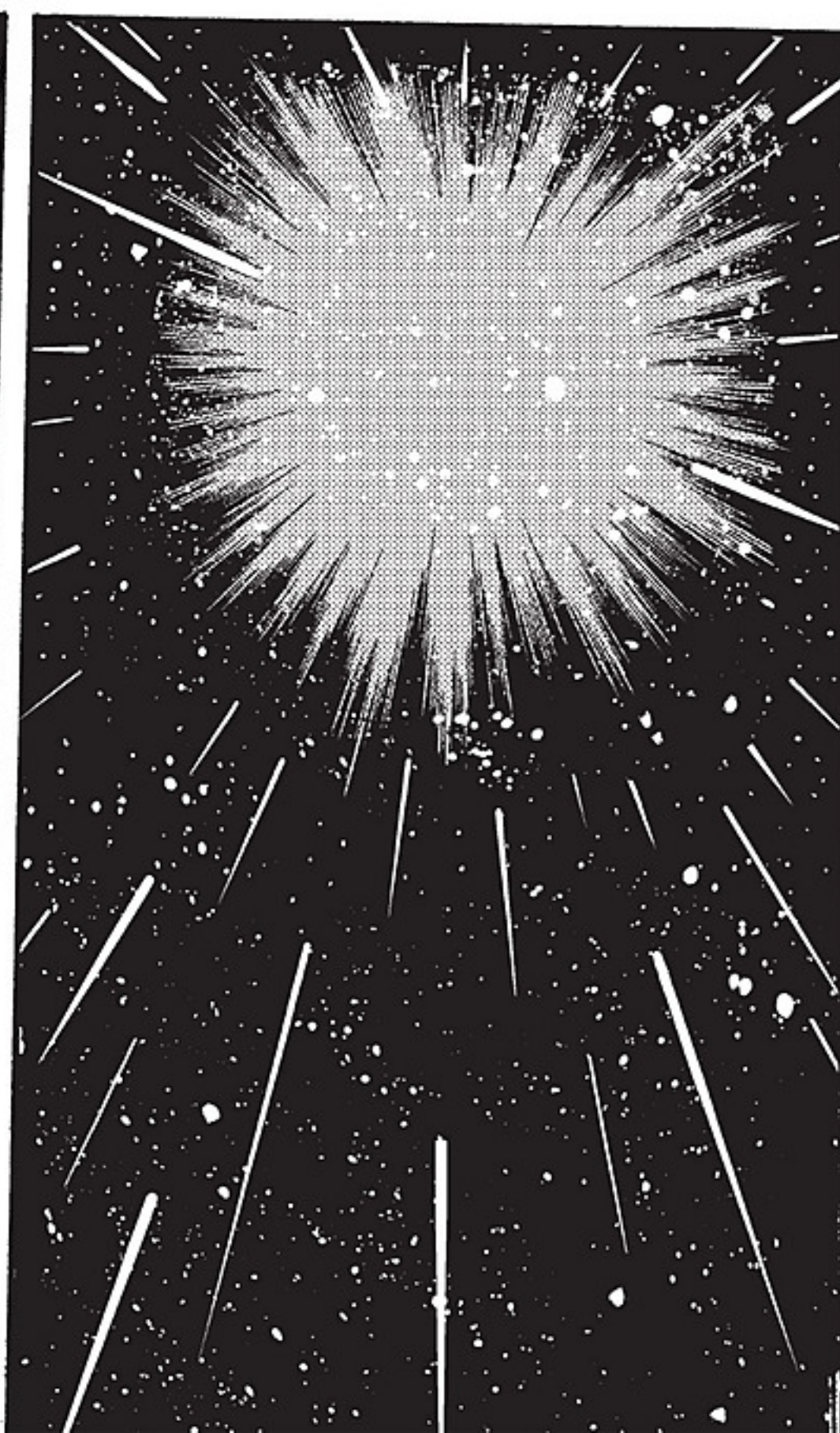
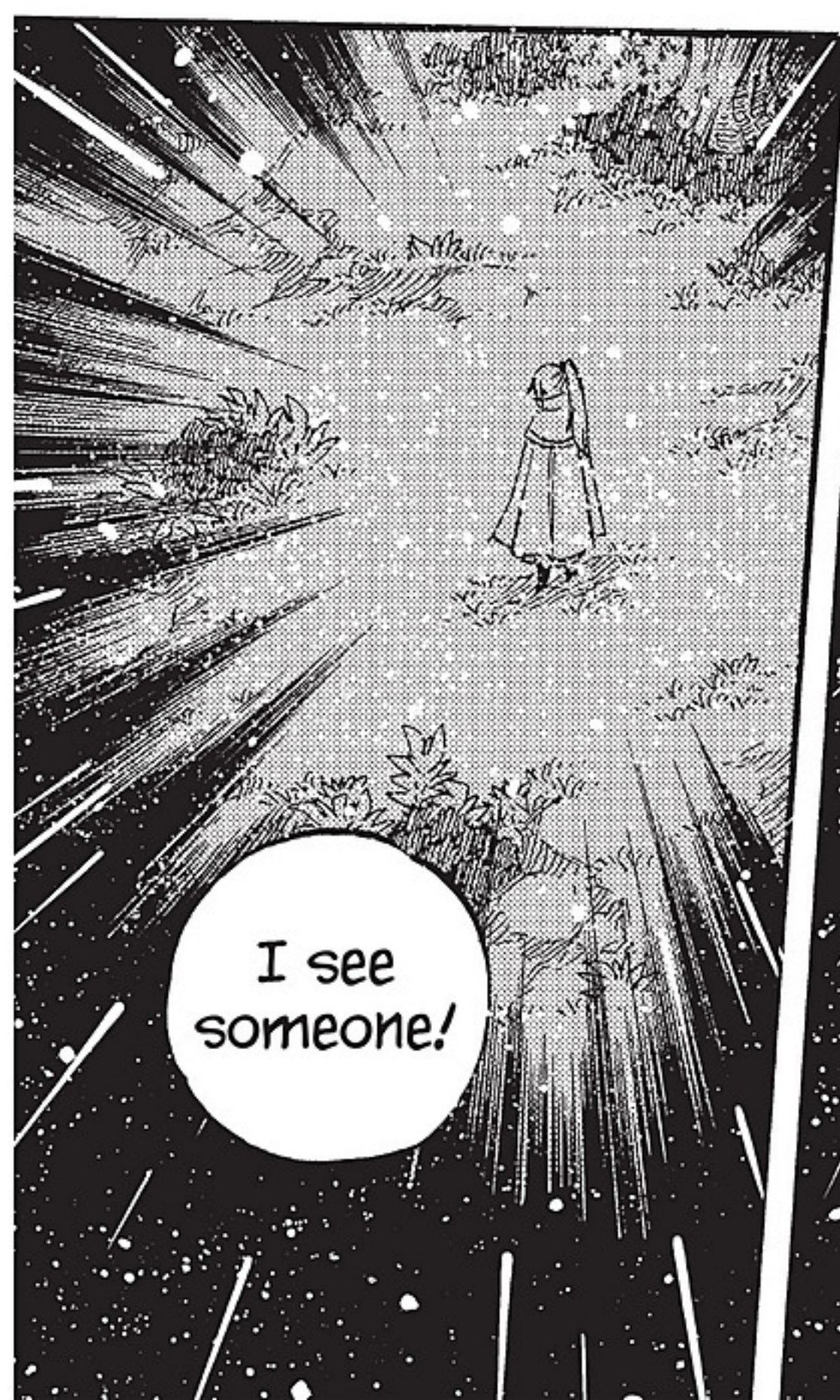
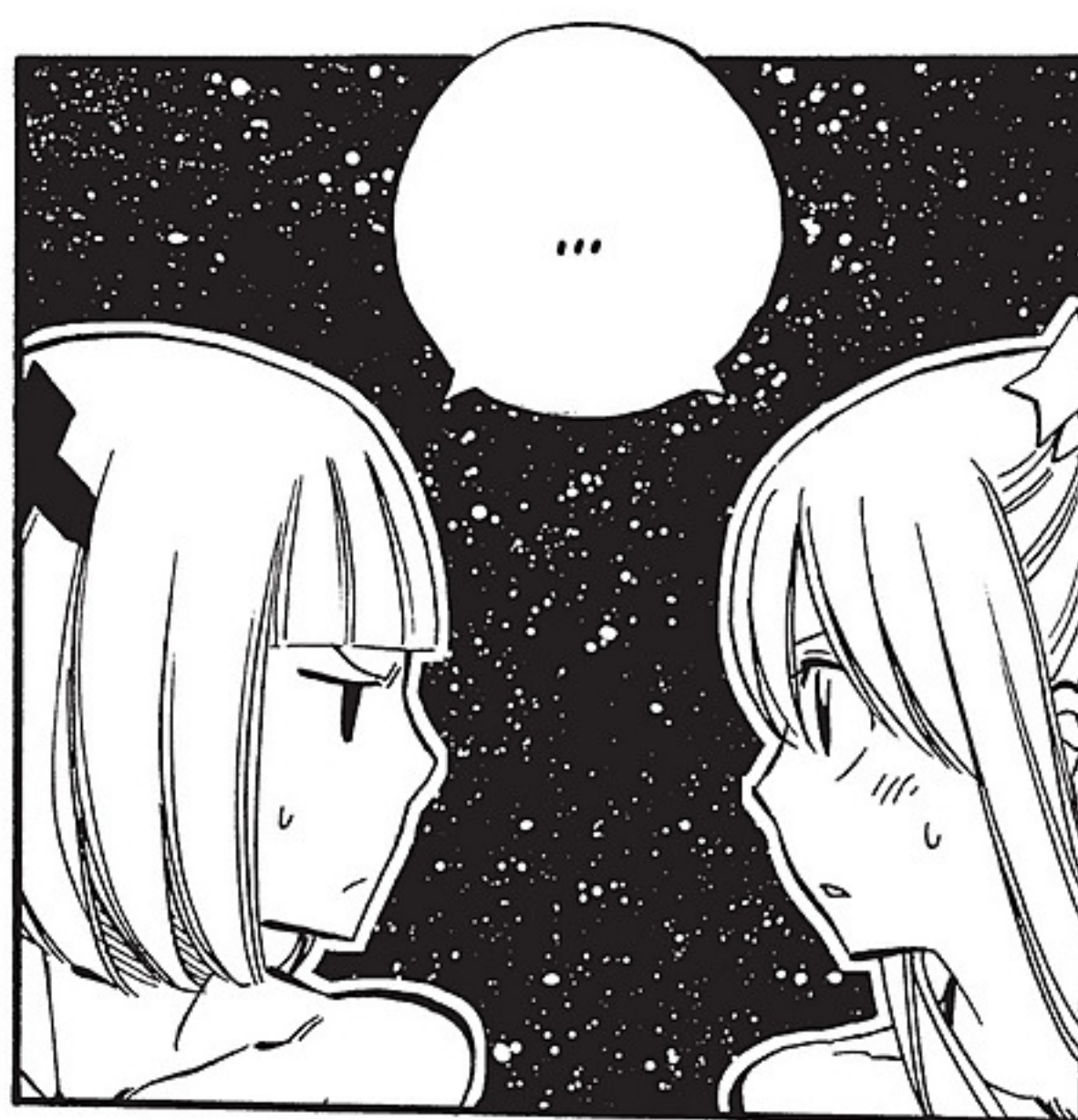
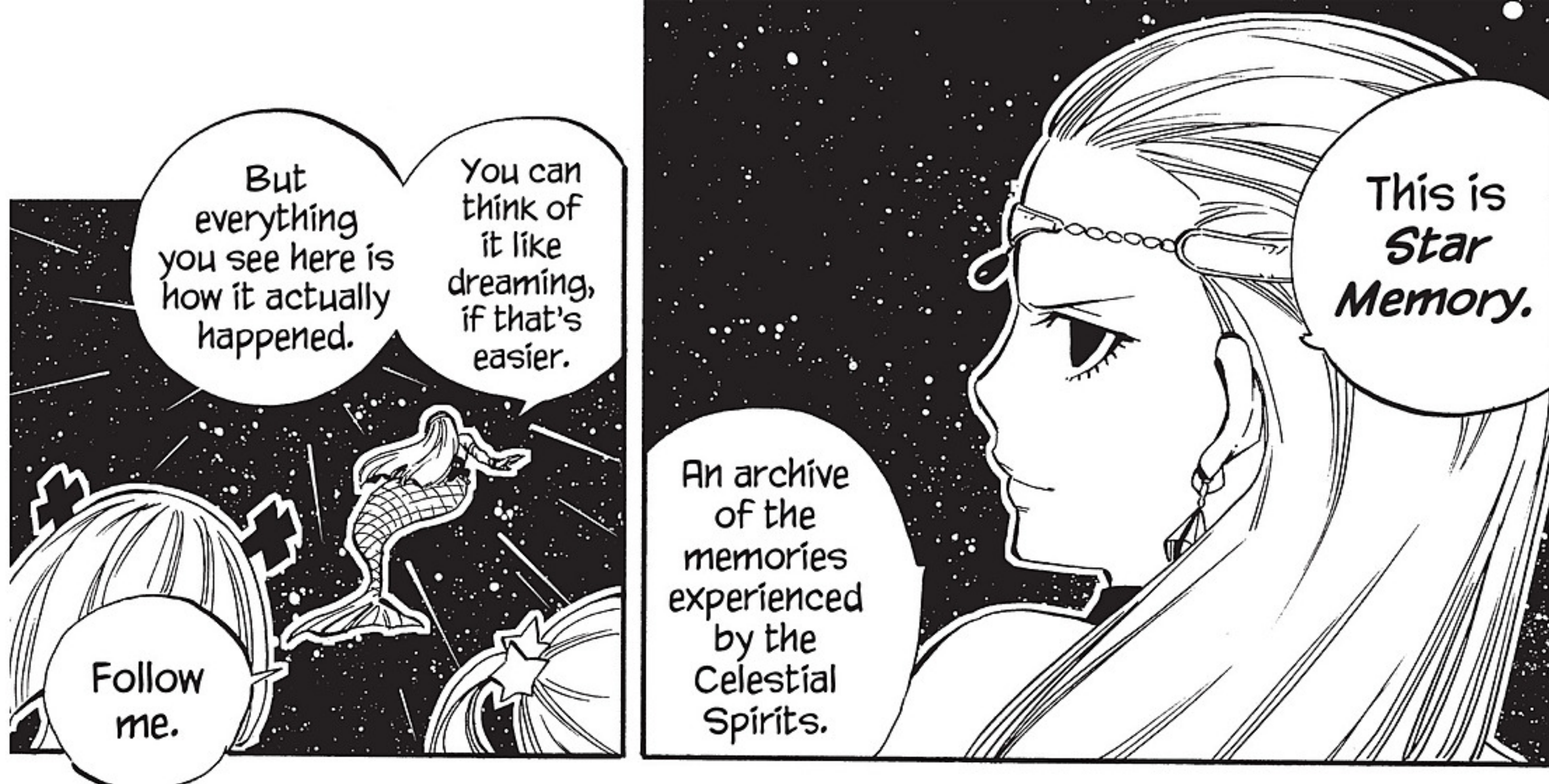
















That is  
Anna Heartfilia,  
Lucy's distant  
ancestor.

She  
was a great  
celestial  
wizard.



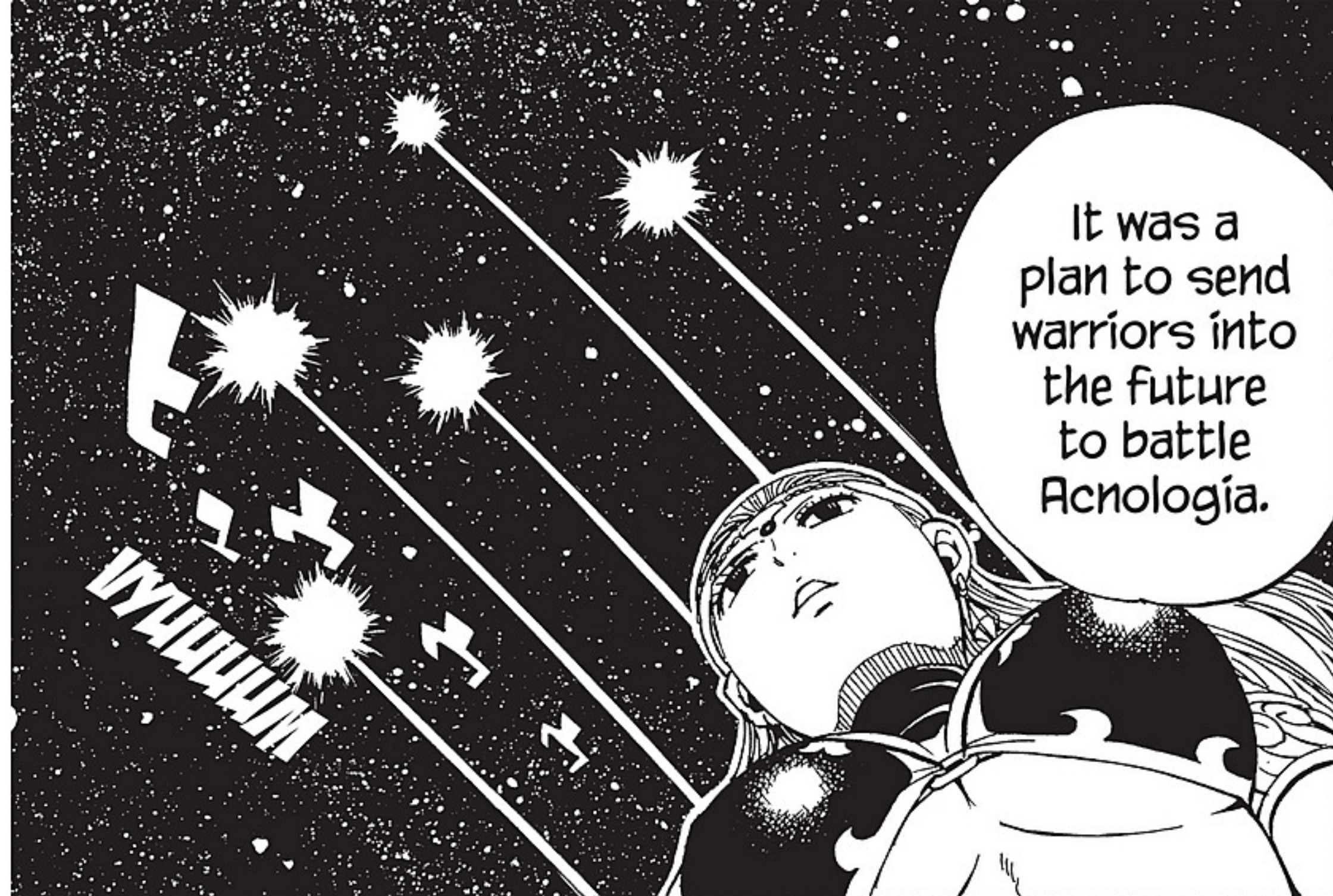
The Black Wizard,  
dragons, and celestial  
wizards developed a  
plan and put it into  
operation.



This is  
400 years  
ago.





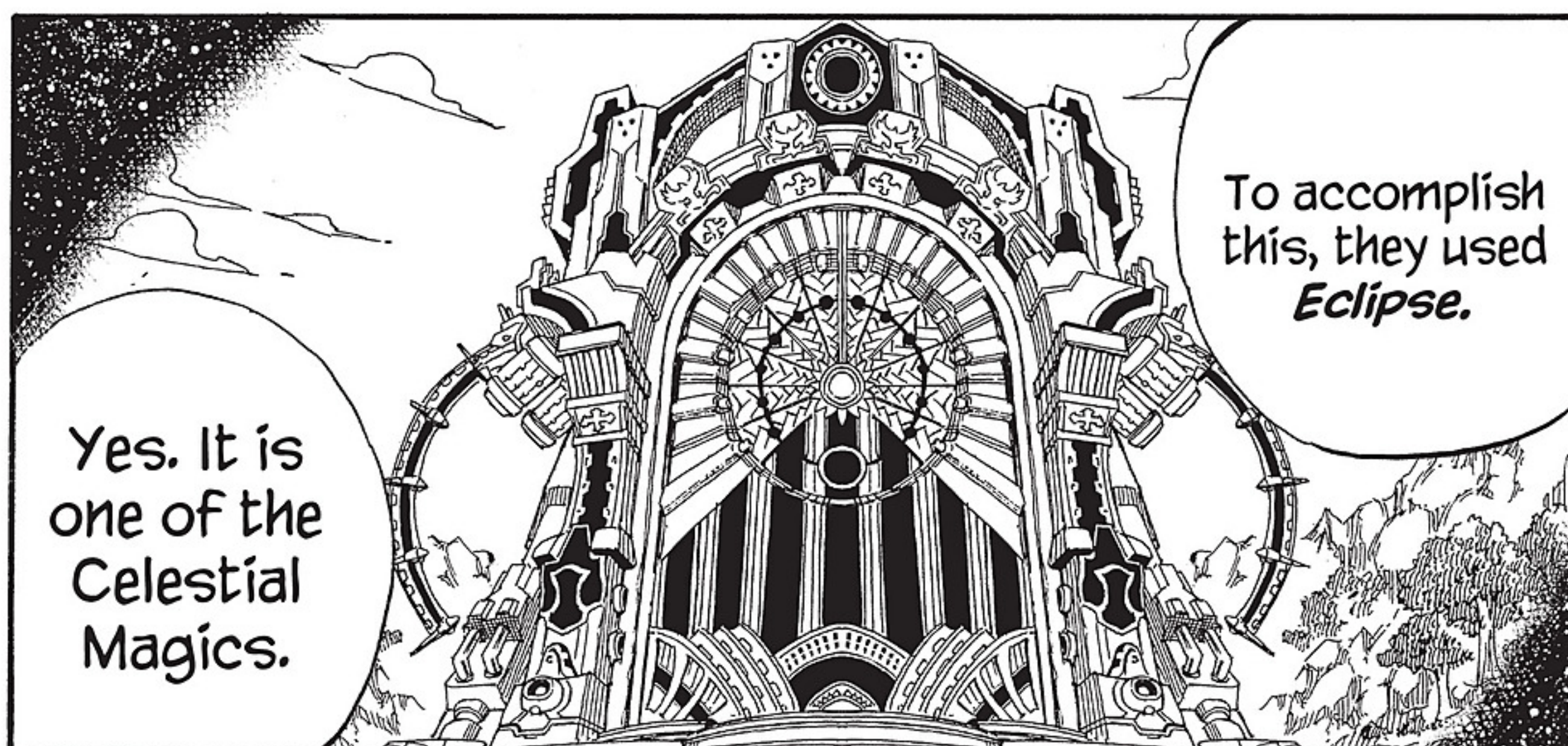


It was a plan to send warriors into the future to battle Achnologia.



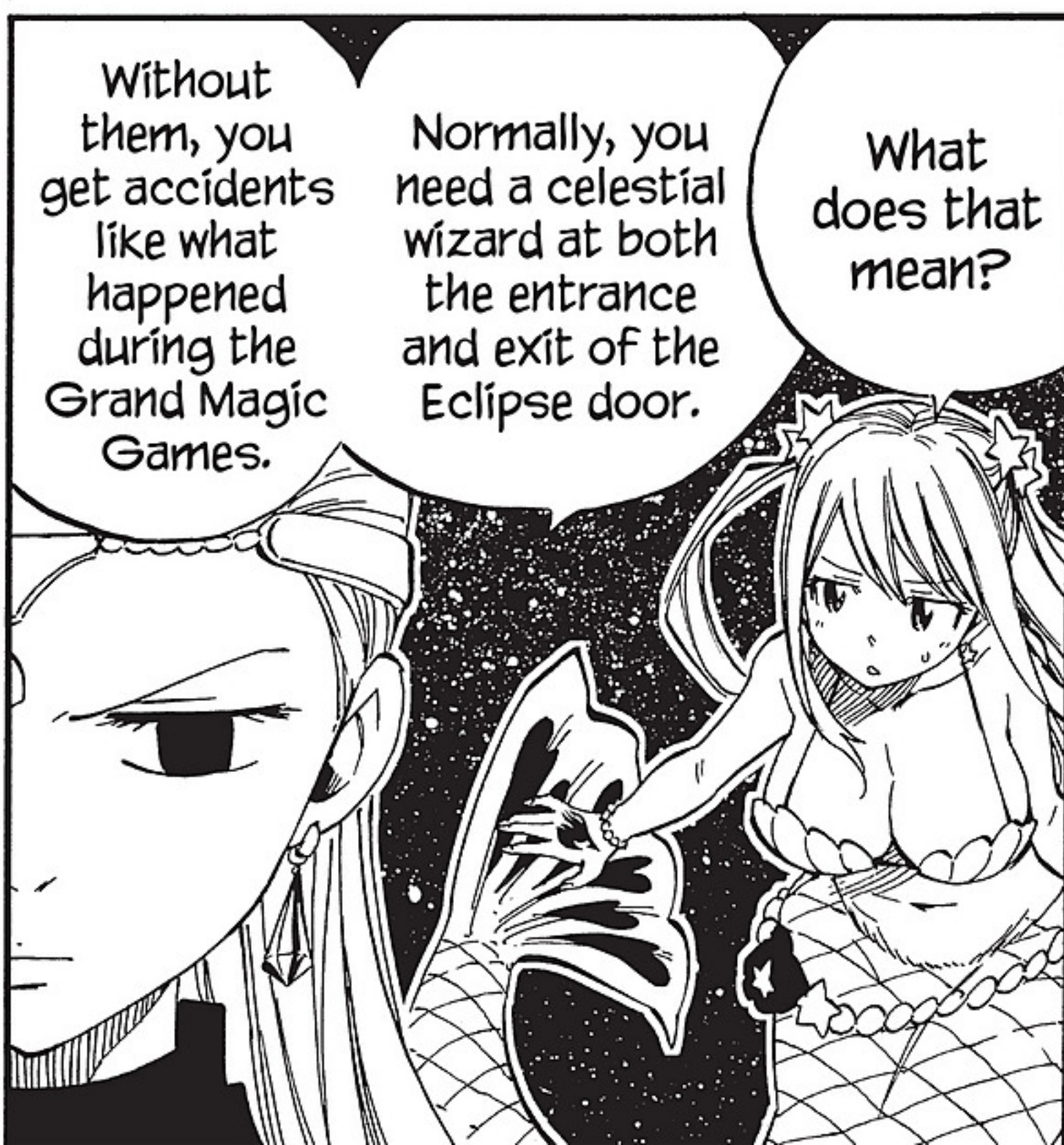
His Majesty?!  
Zeref?!

Zeref?!



Yes. It is one of the Celestial Magics.

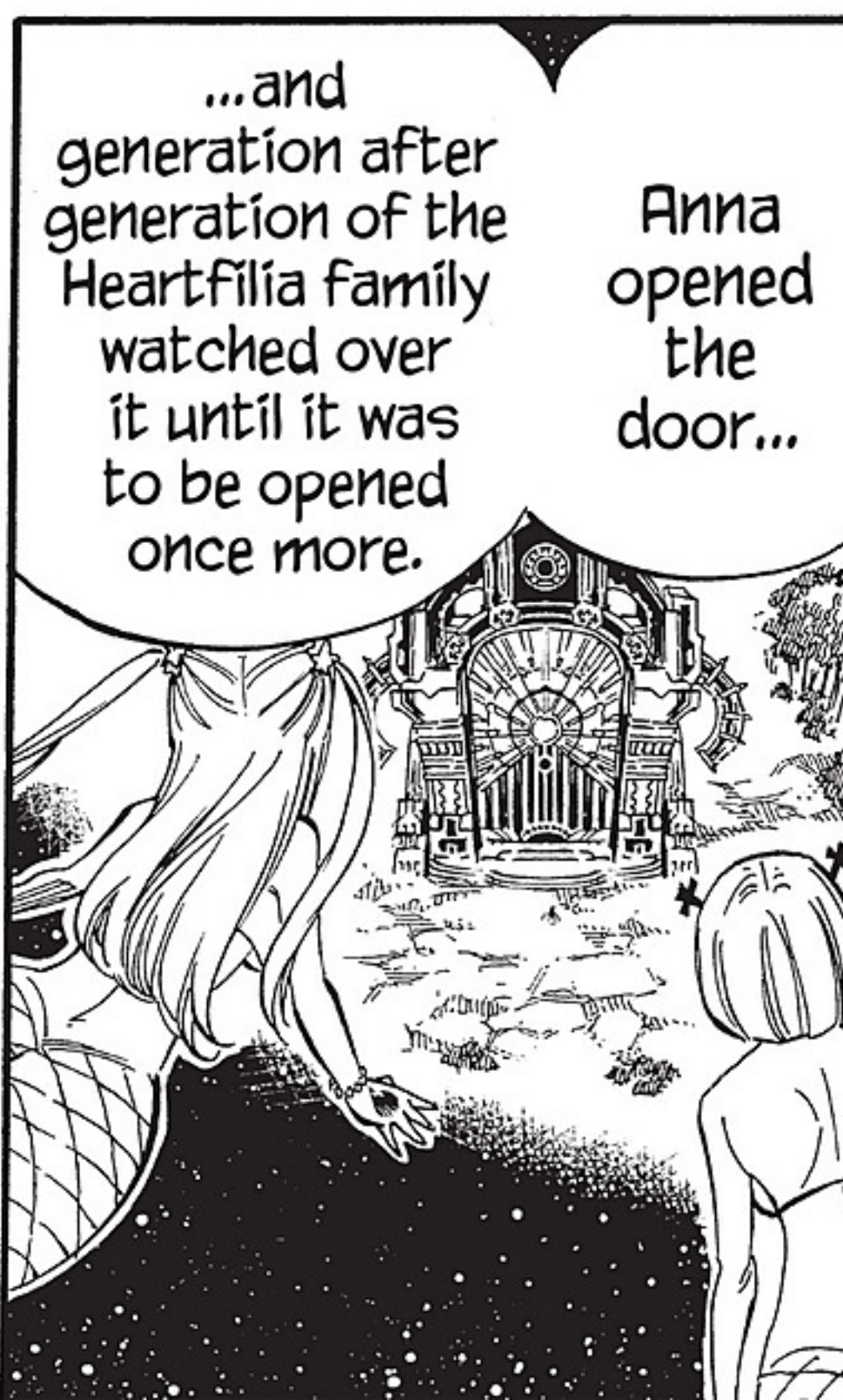
To accomplish this, they used *Eclipse*.



Without them, you get accidents like what happened during the Grand Magic Games.

Normally, you need a celestial wizard at both the entrance and exit of the Eclipse door.

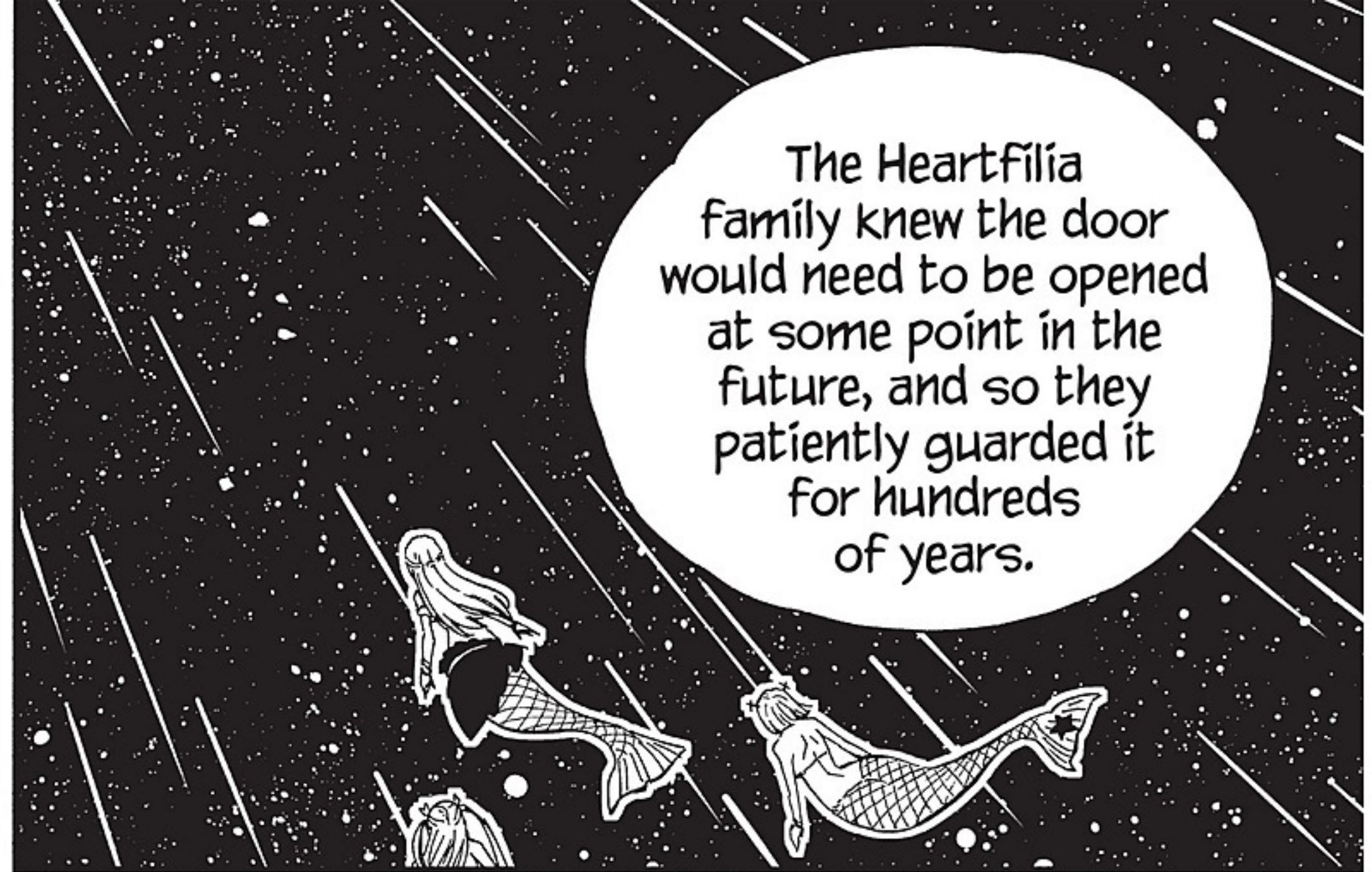
What does that mean?



...and generation after generation of the Heartfilia family watched over it until it was to be opened once more.

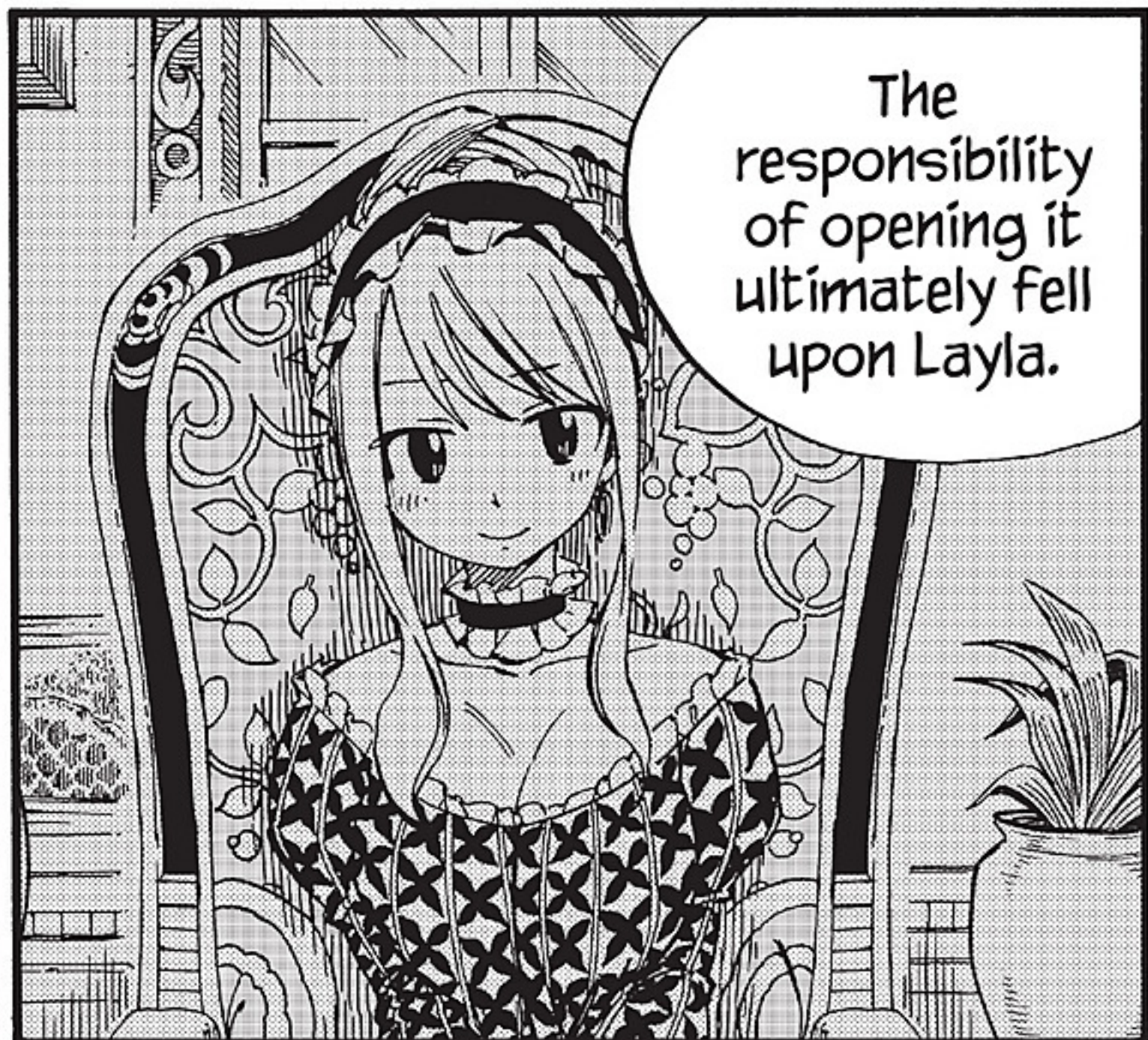
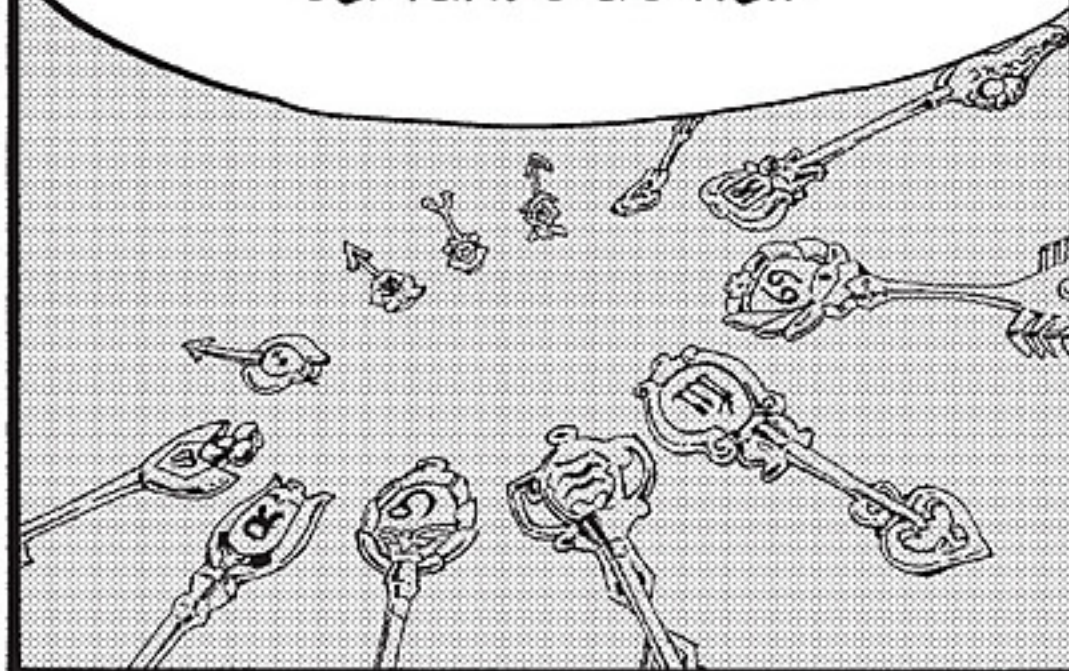
Anna opened the door...



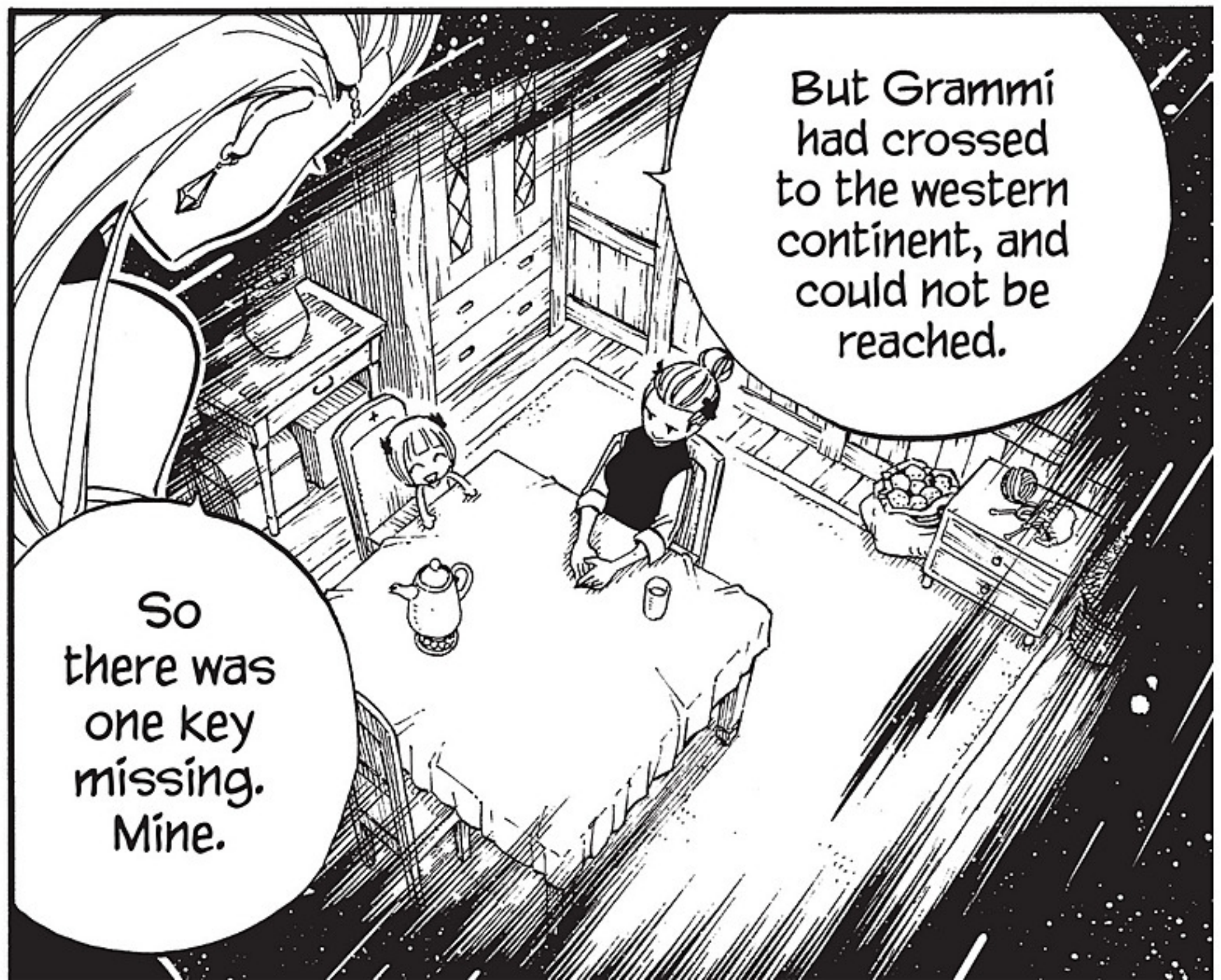
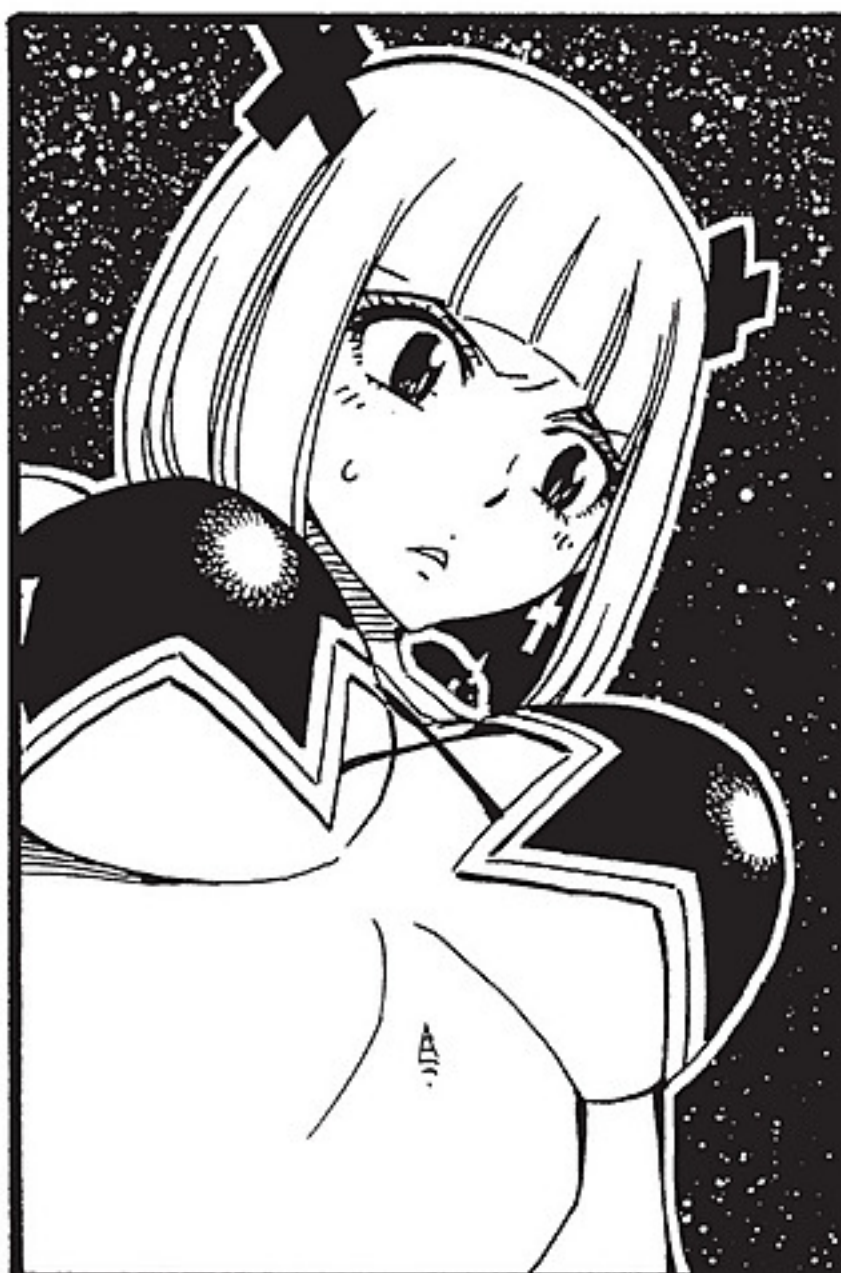


The Heartfilia family knew the door would need to be opened at some point in the future, and so they patiently guarded it for hundreds of years.

To open the door, you need all twelve of the Golden Keys. To assemble them, Layla called a gathering of all the celestial wizards, and attempted to retrieve the three keys she had entrusted to her servants as well.



The responsibility of opening it ultimately fell upon Layla.



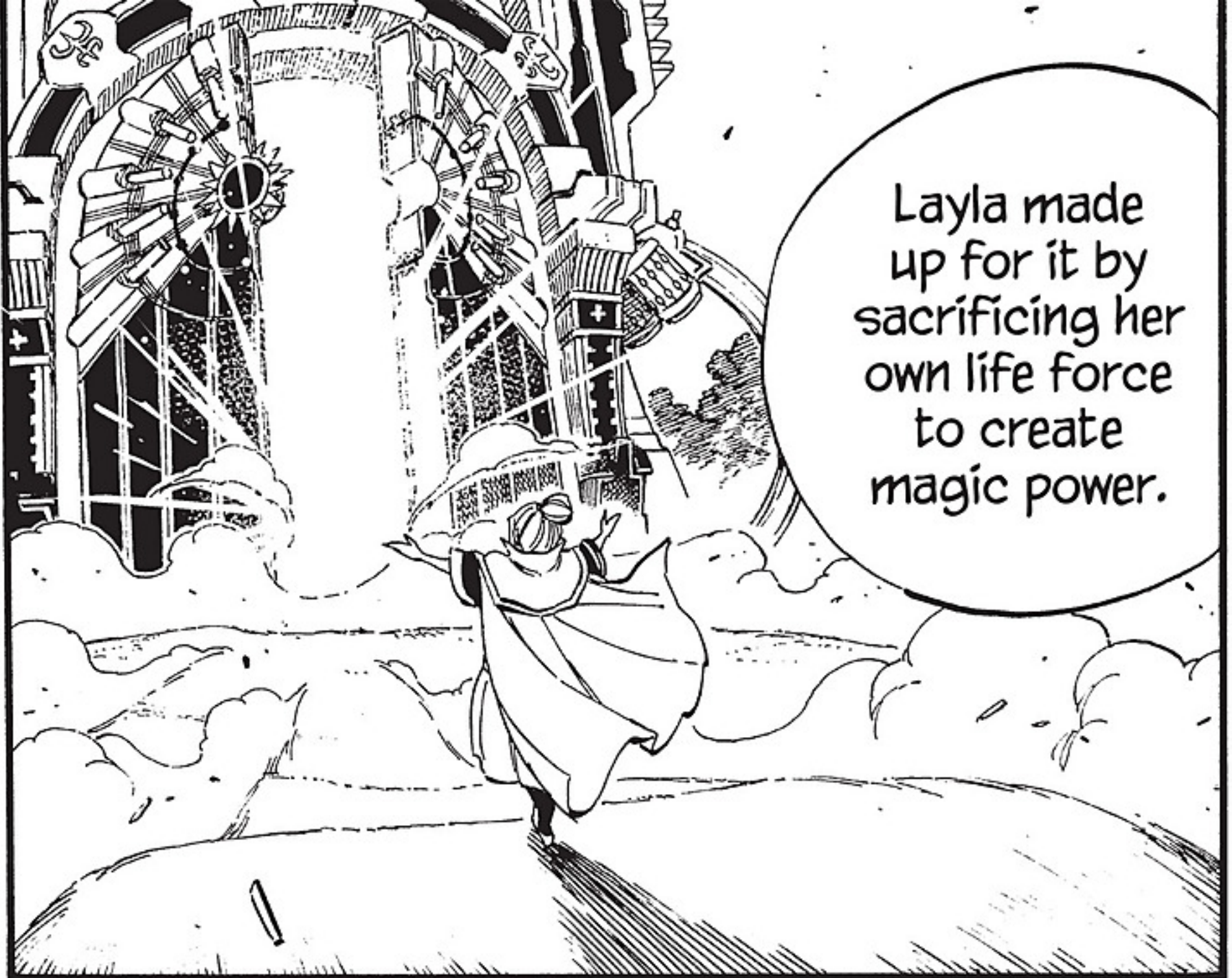
But Grammi had crossed to the western continent, and could not be reached.

So there was one key missing. Mine.

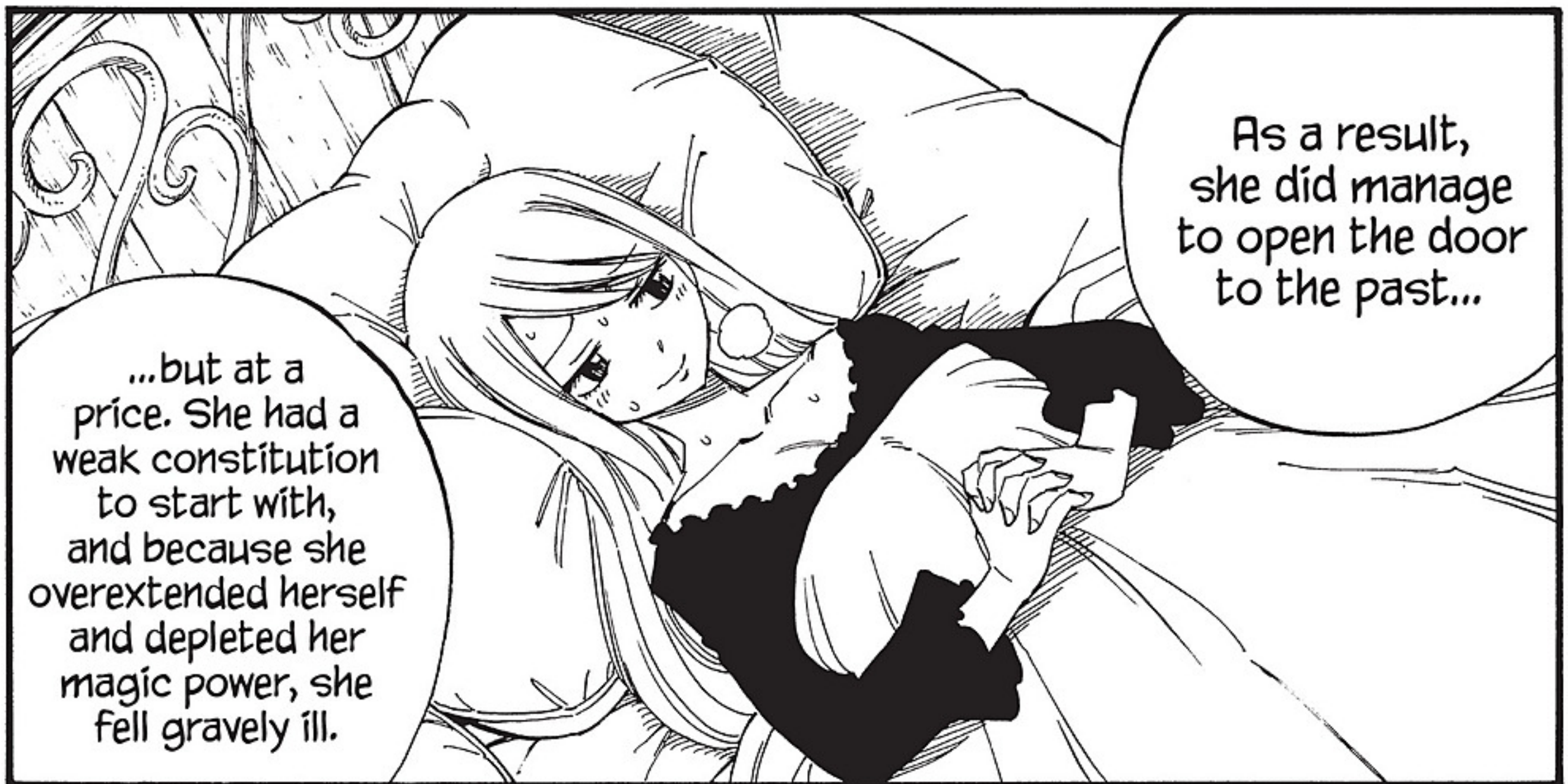




But  
that...

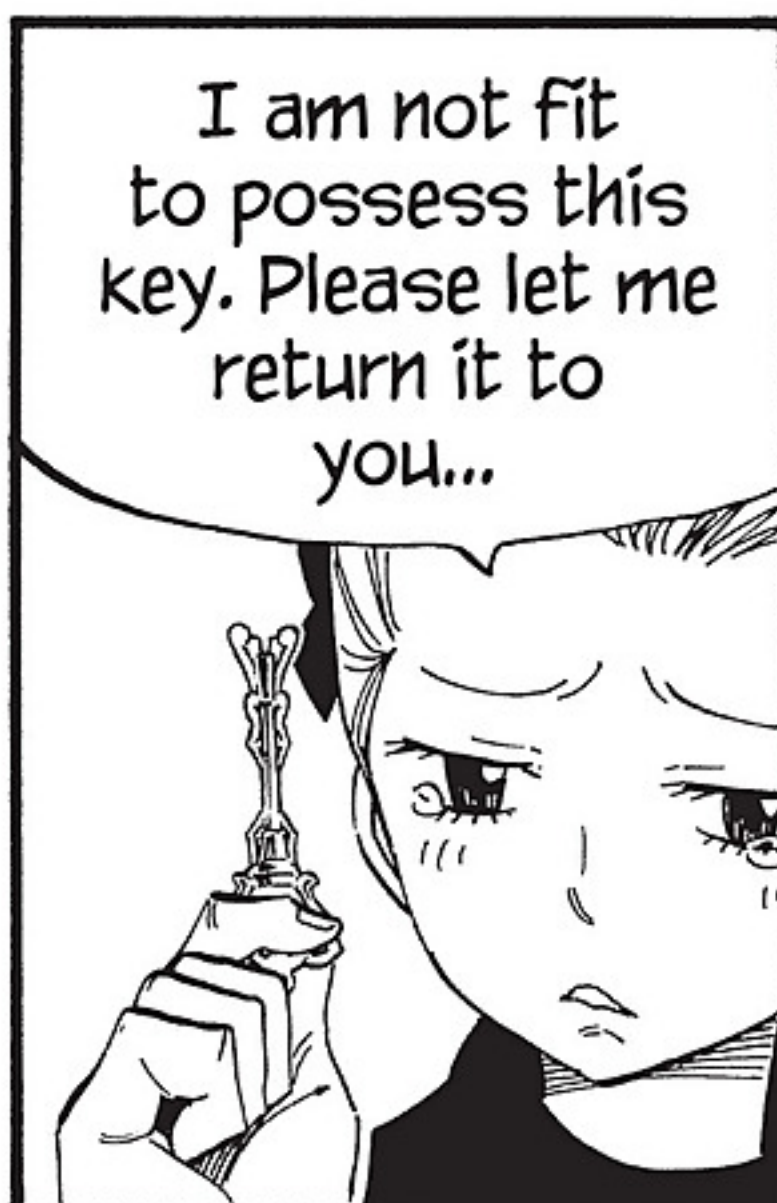


Layla made  
up for it by  
sacrificing her  
own life force  
to create  
magic power.

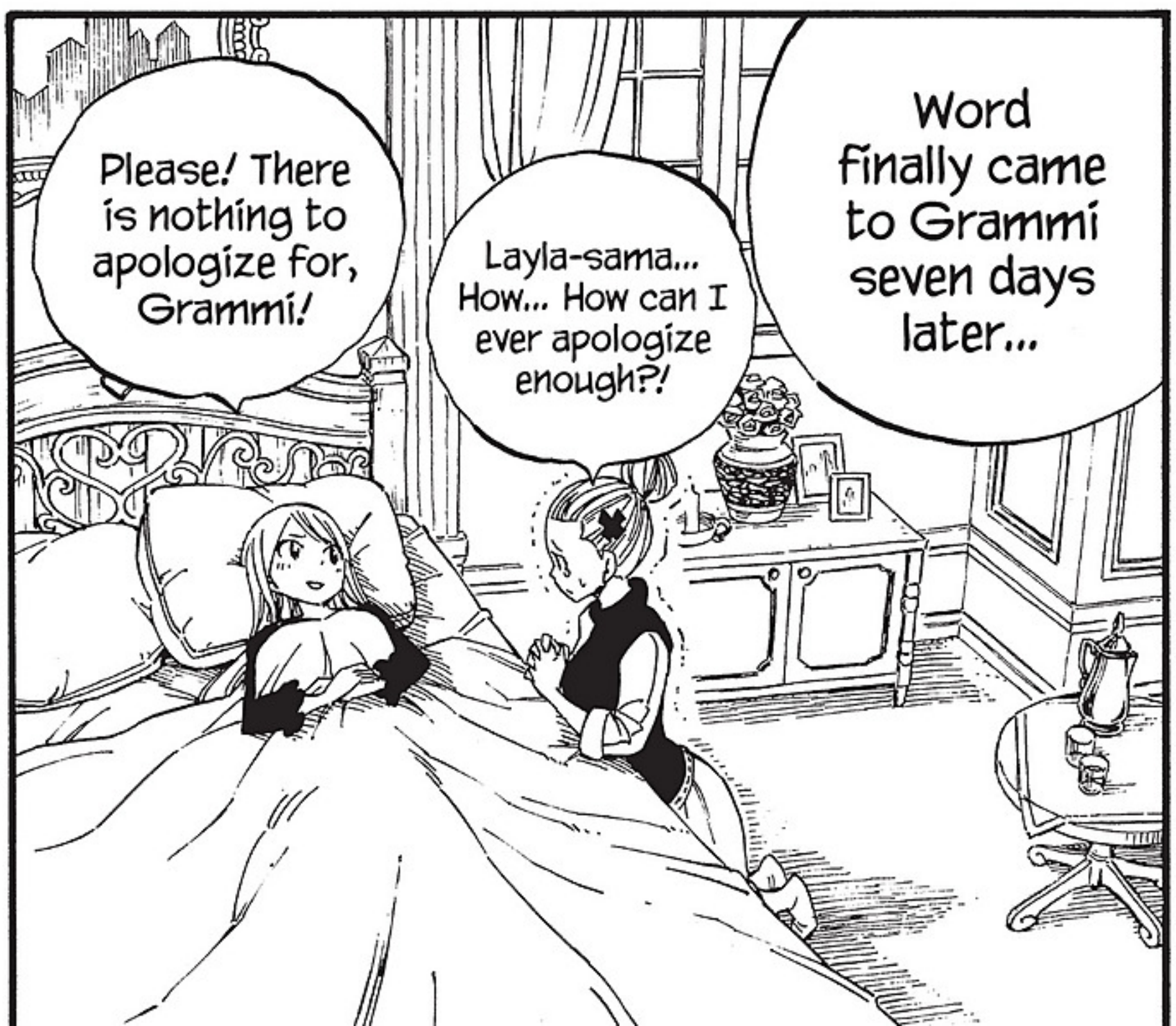


...but at a  
price. She had a  
weak constitution  
to start with,  
and because she  
overextended herself  
and depleted her  
magic power, she  
fell gravely ill.

As a result,  
she did manage  
to open the door  
to the past...



I am not fit  
to possess this  
key. Please let me  
return it to  
you...

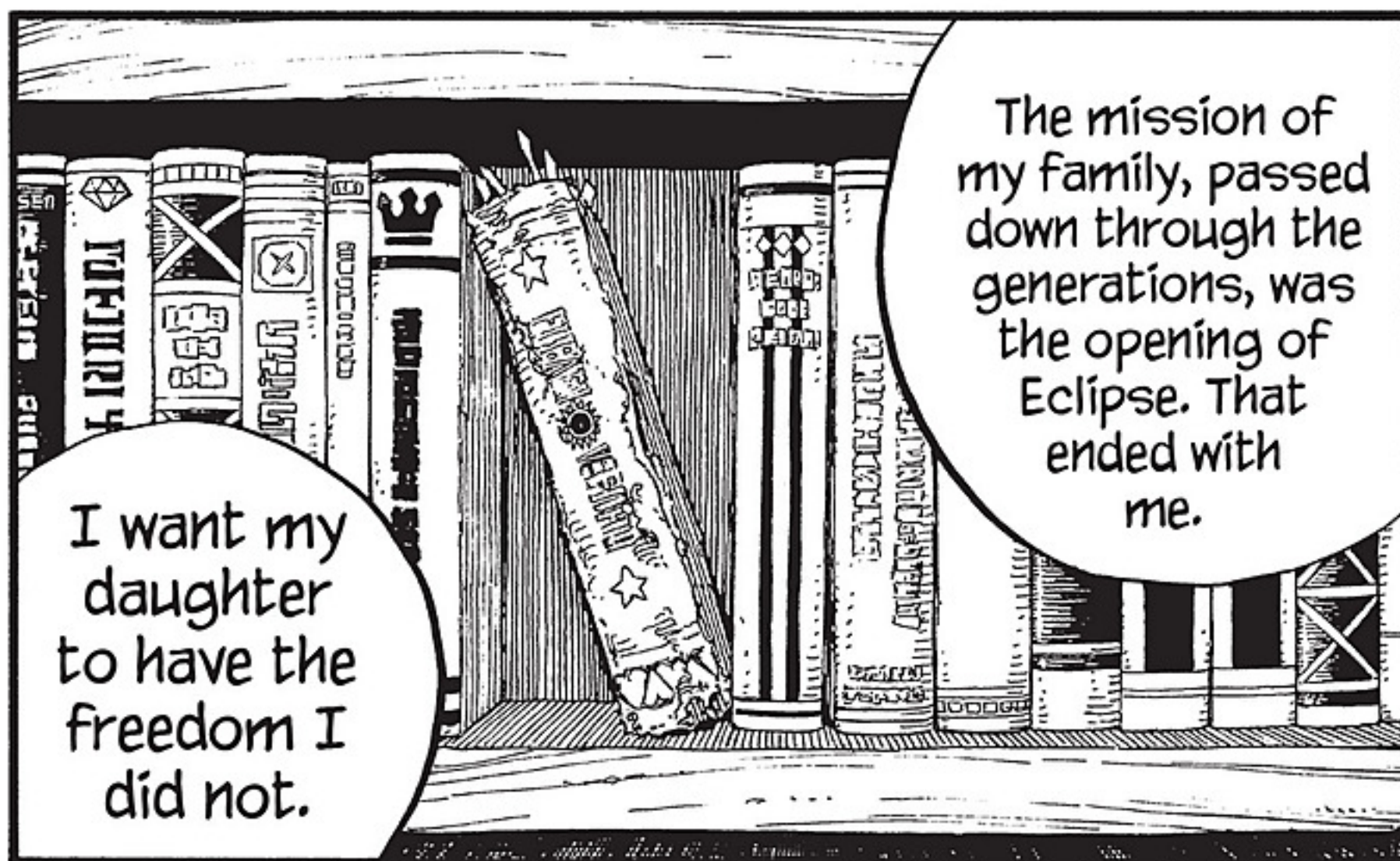


Please! There  
is nothing to  
apologize for,  
Grammi!

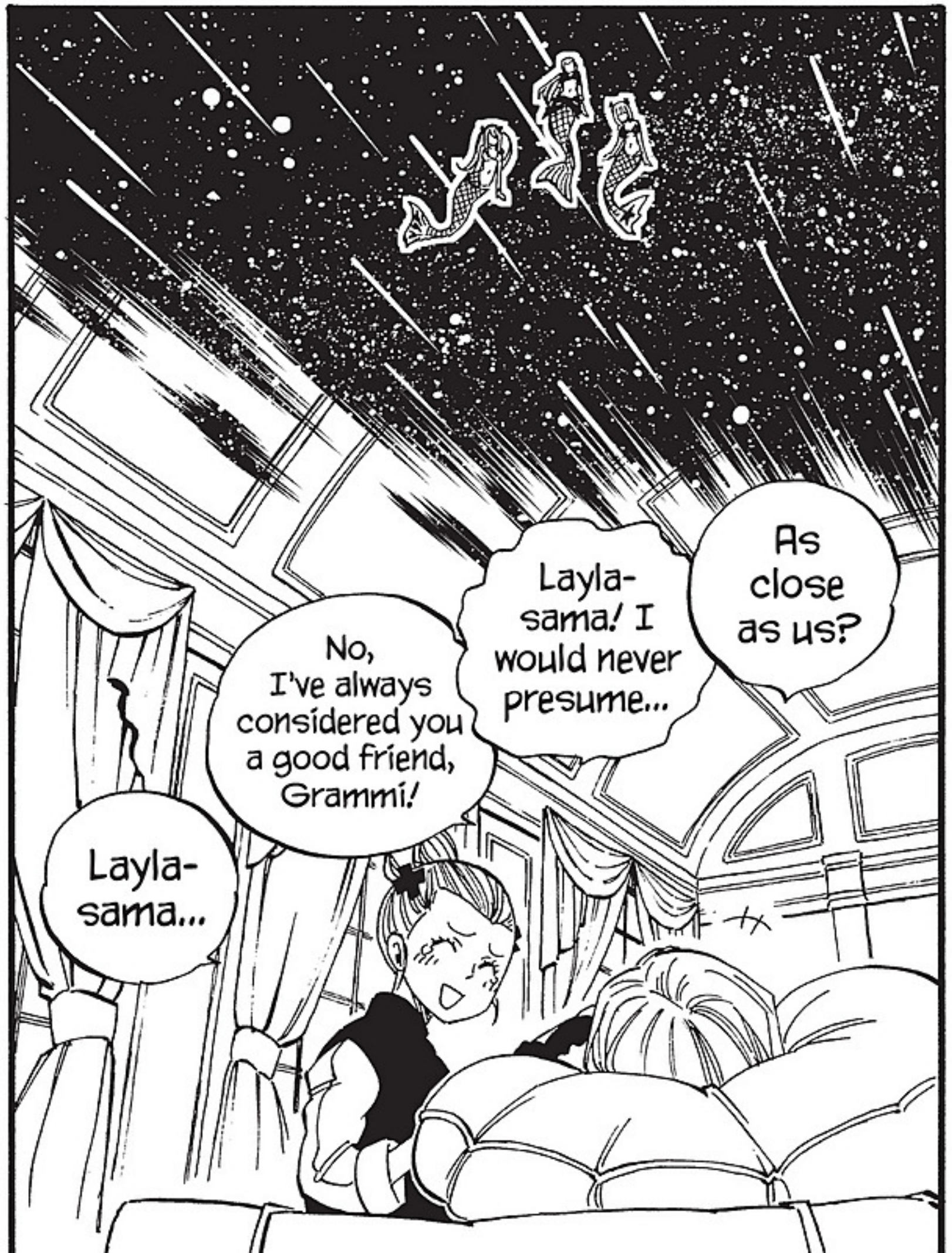
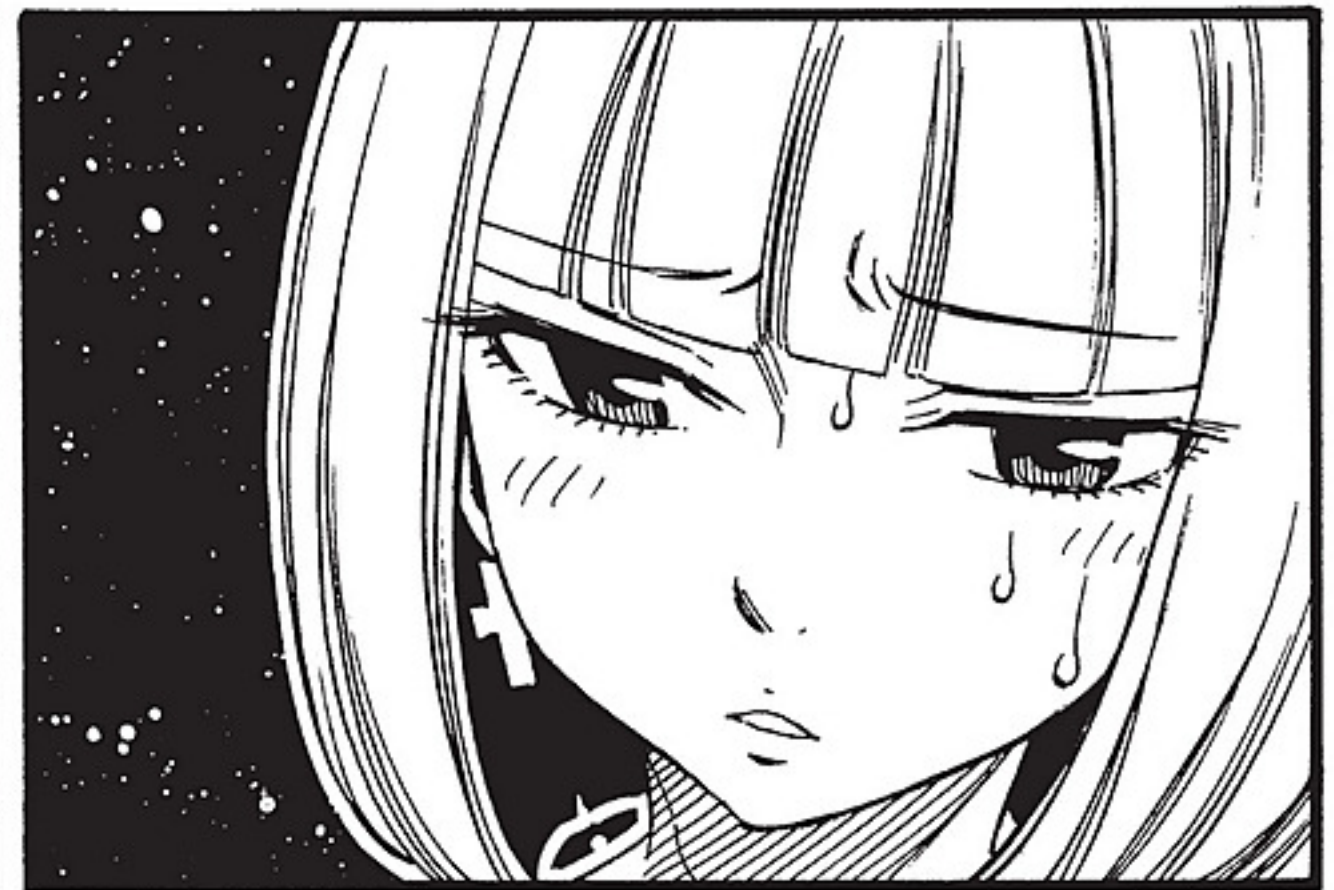
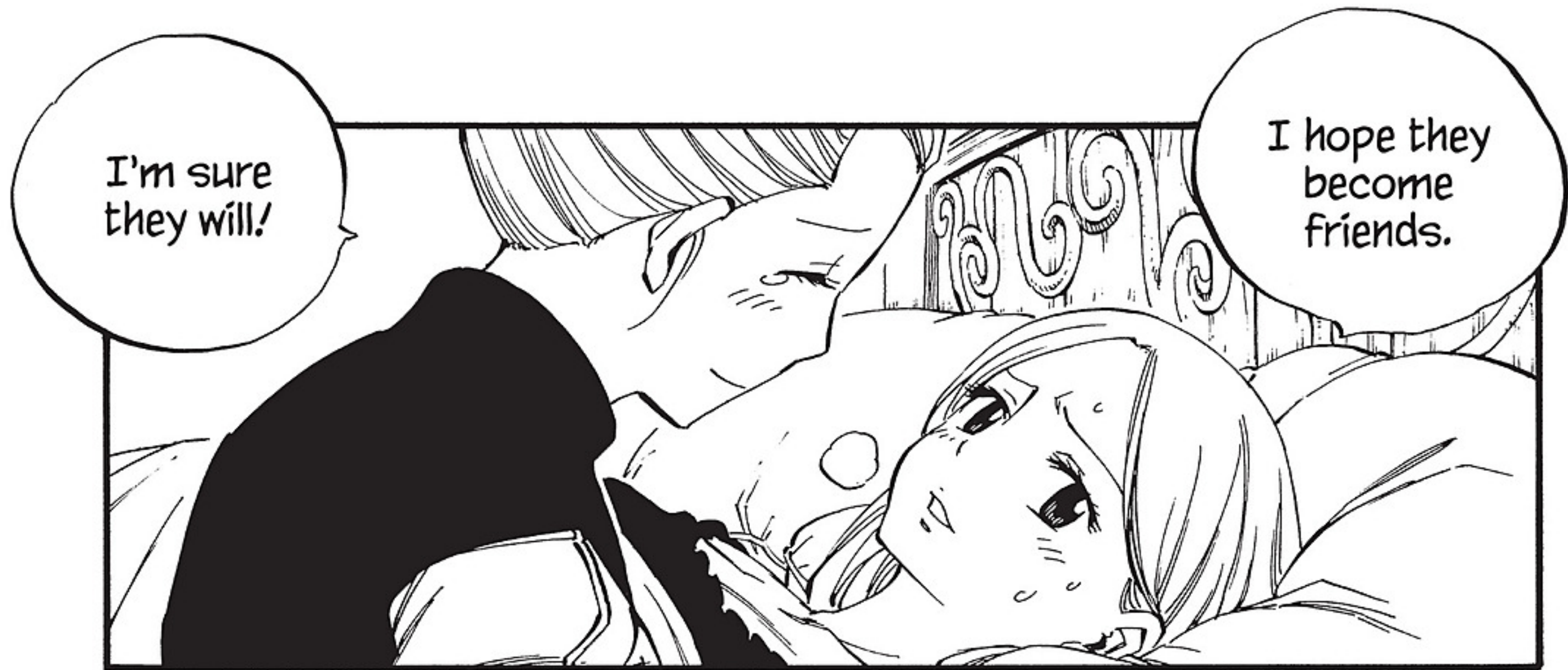
Layla-sama...  
How... How can I  
ever apologize  
enough?!

Word  
finally came  
to Grammi  
seven days  
later...

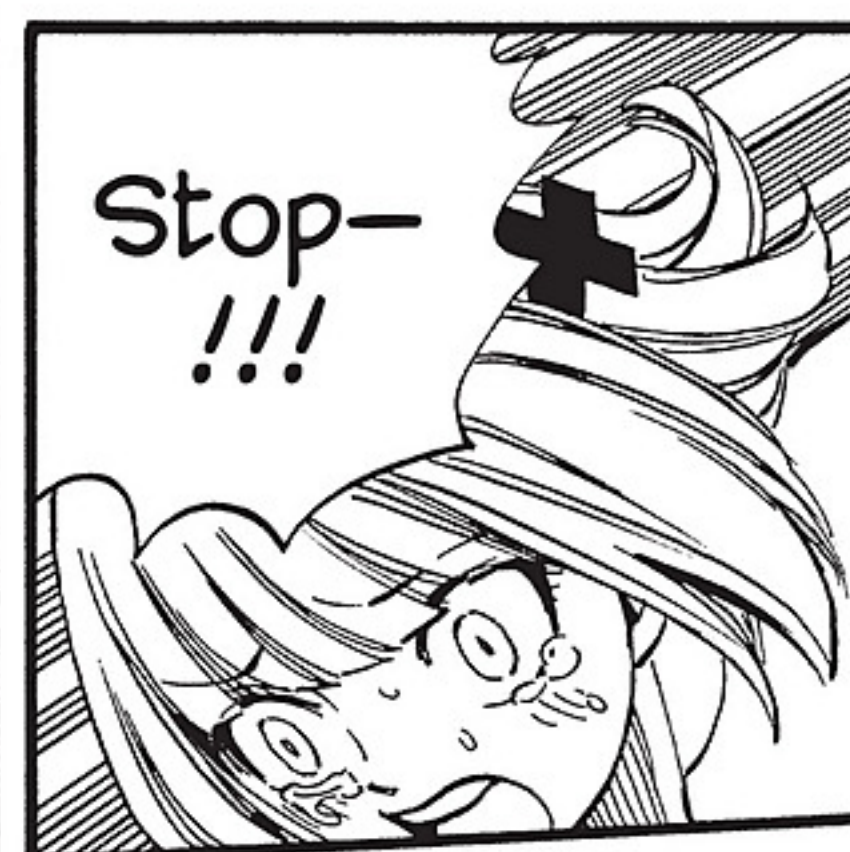
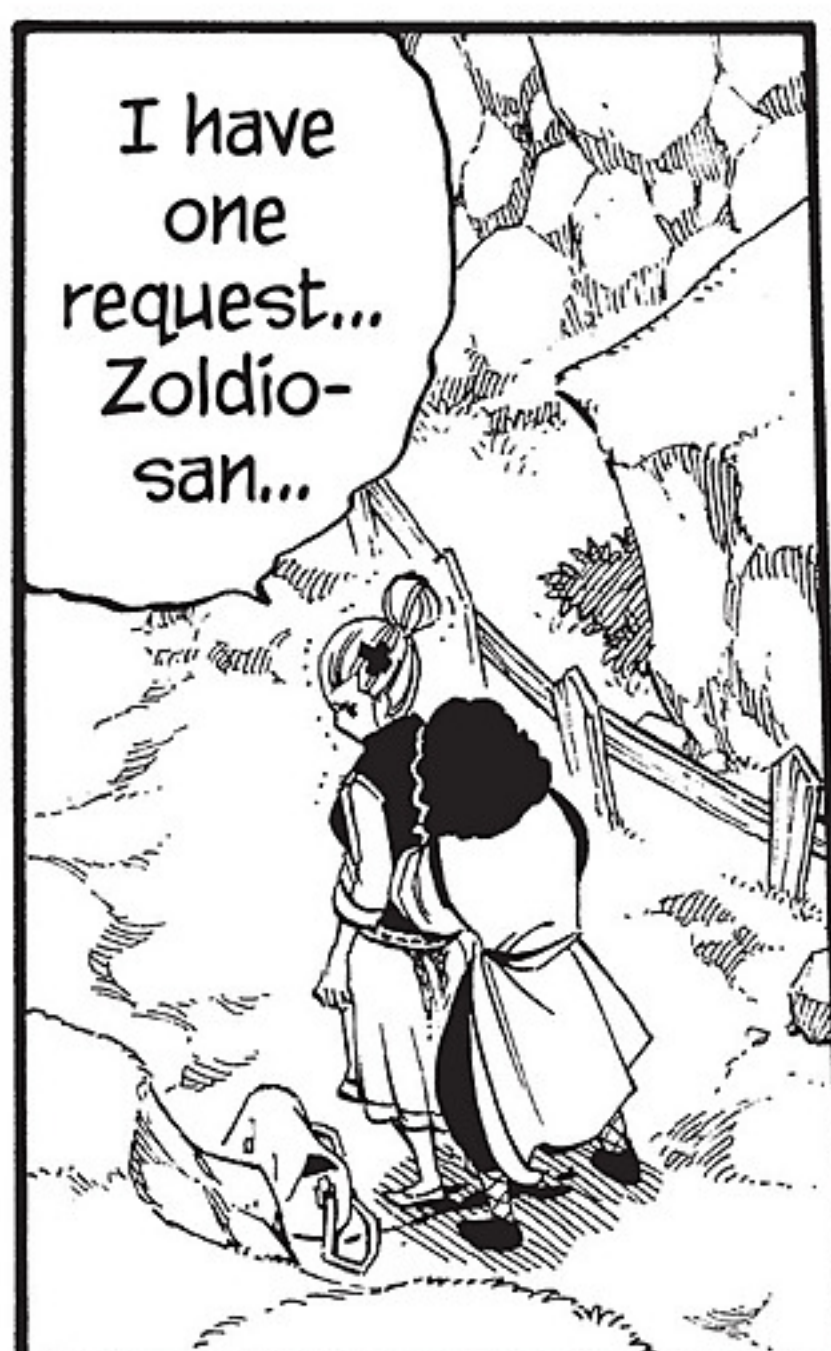
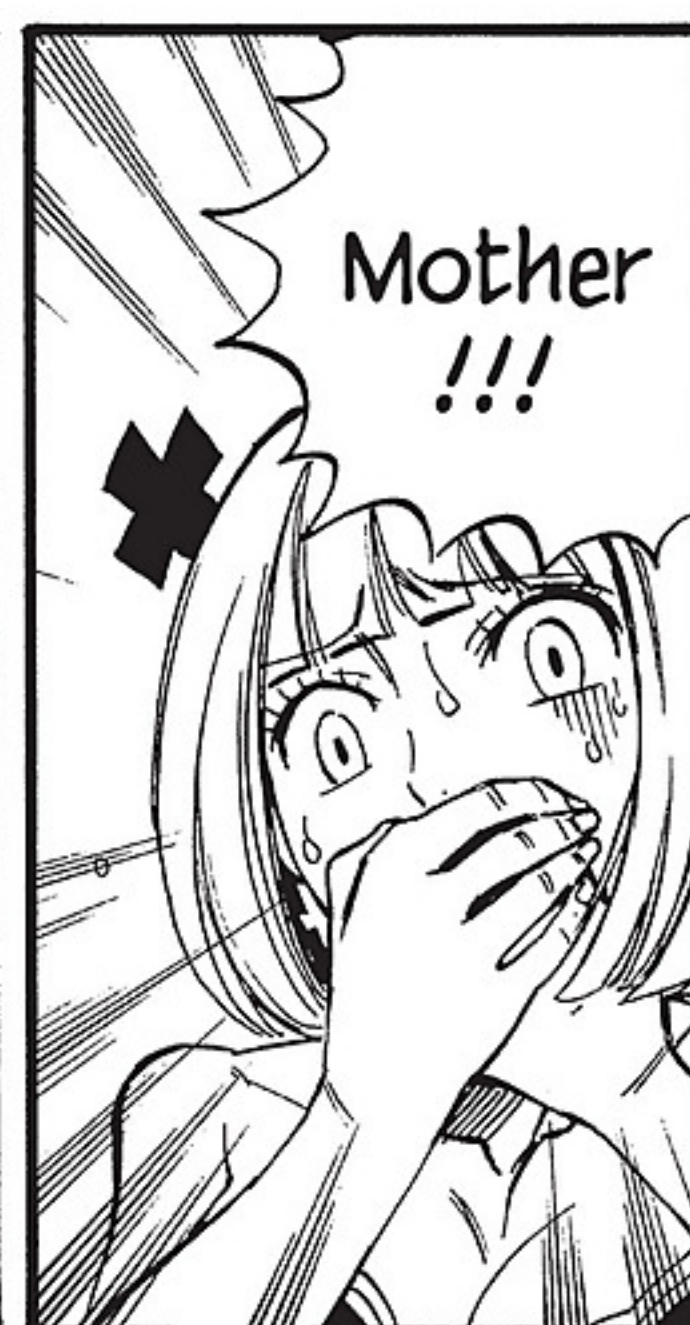
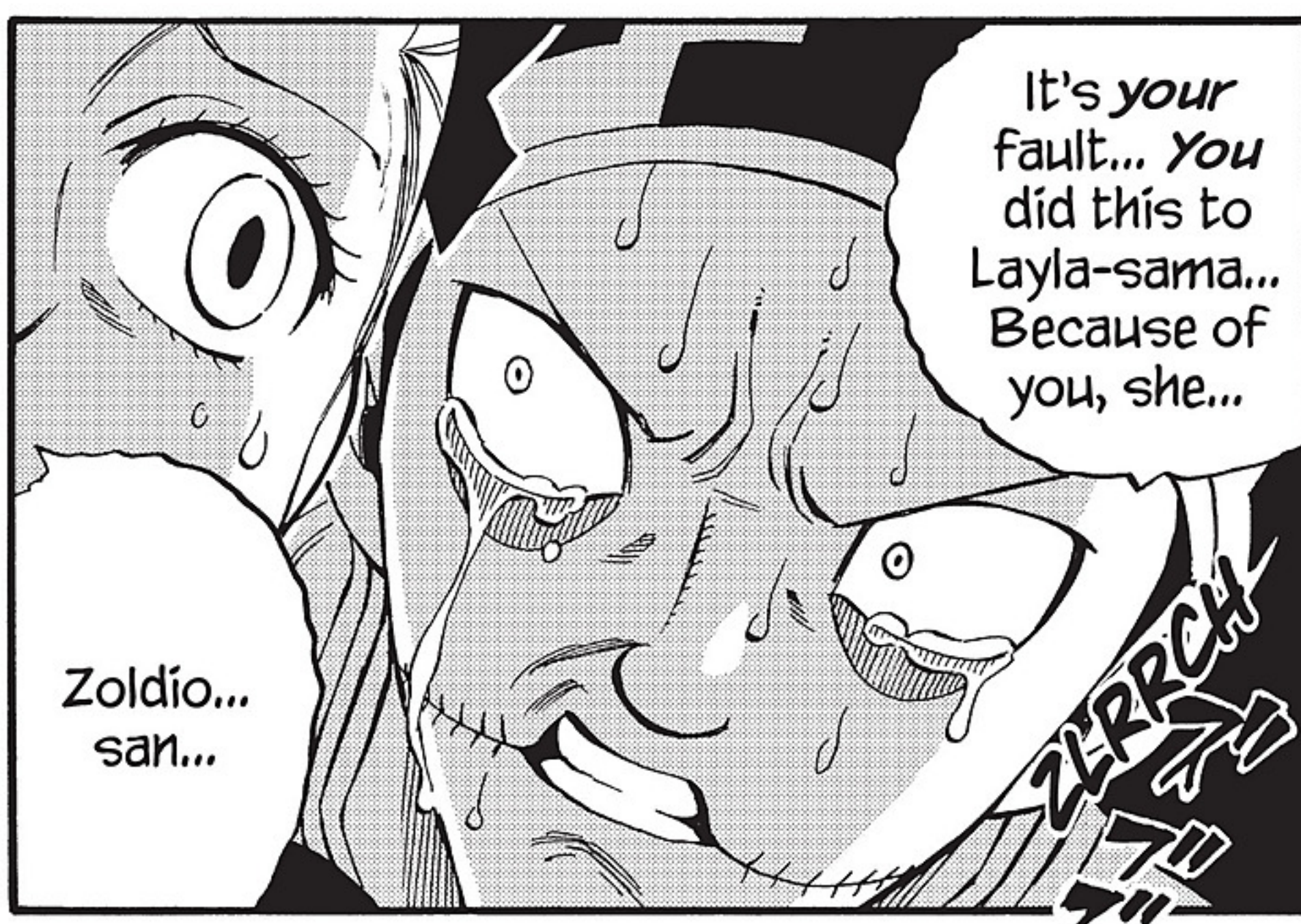
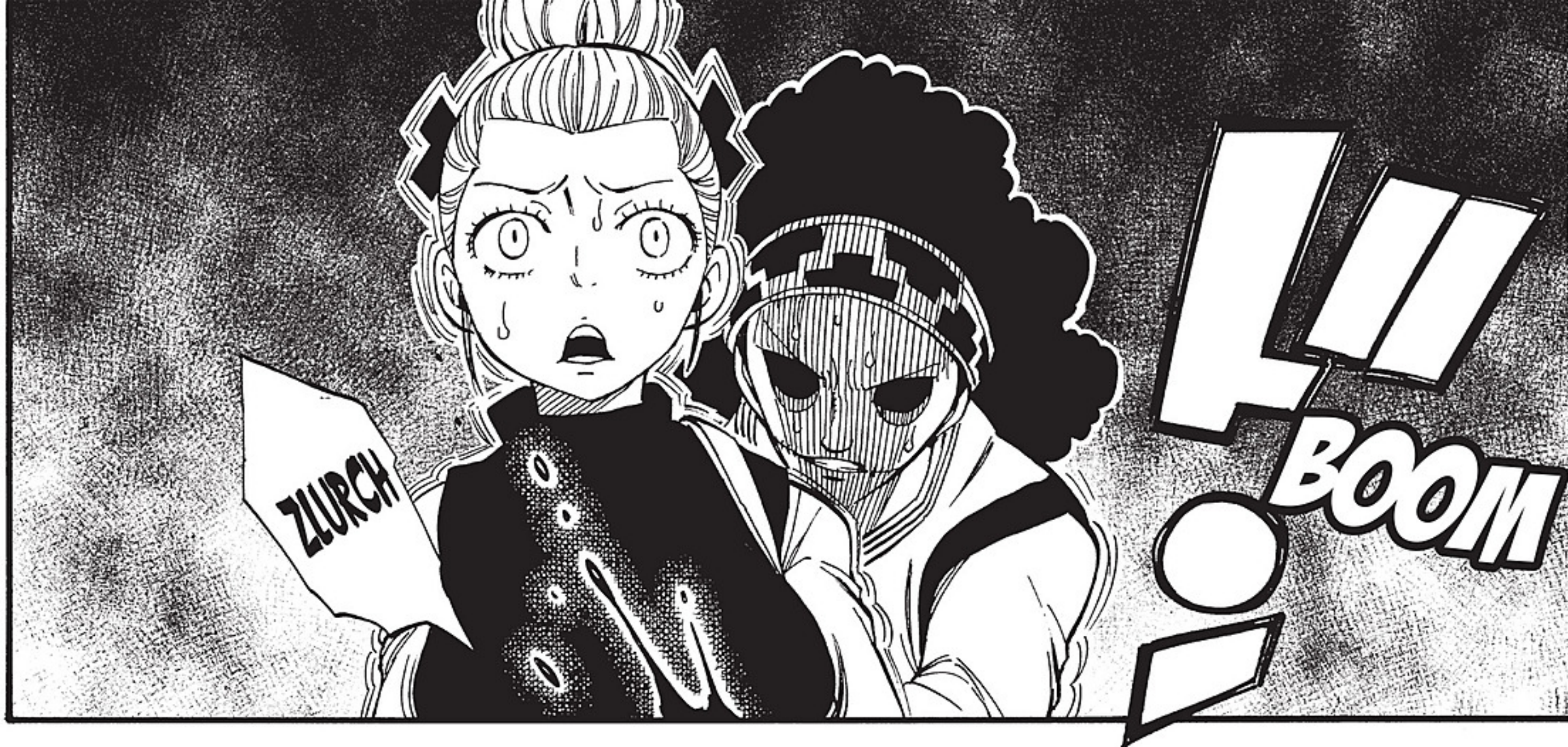














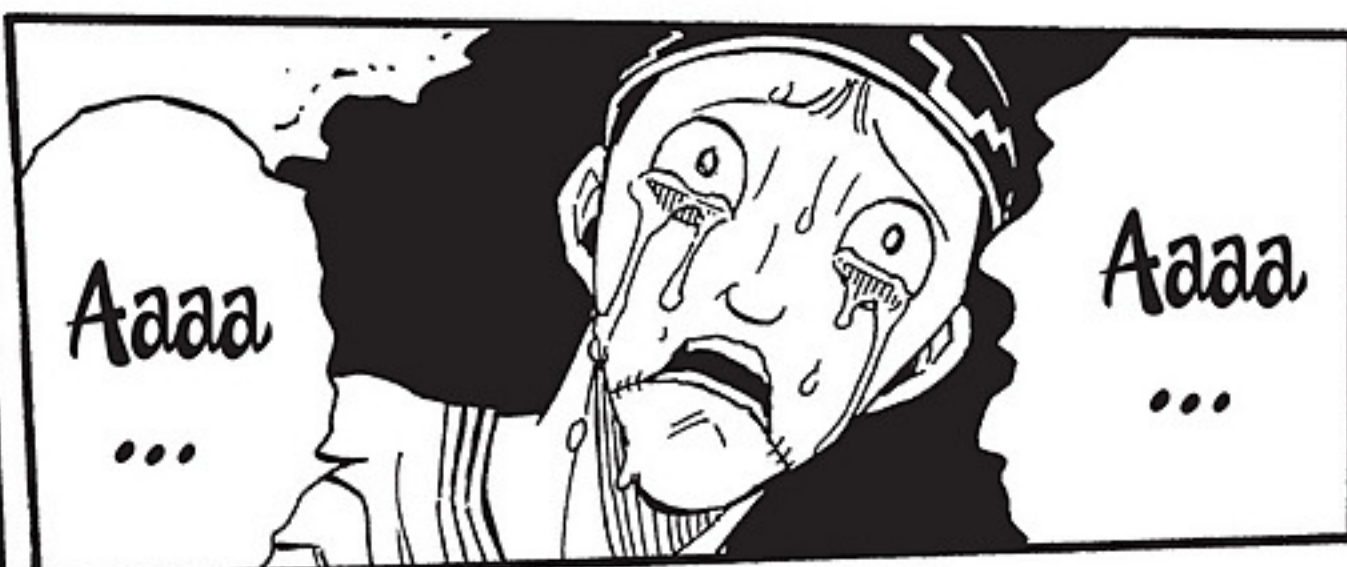


I will give up  
my life for what  
I've done...so  
please honor my  
dying request.

Don't hurt  
my daughter...  
Promise you won't  
take it out on  
Brandish...

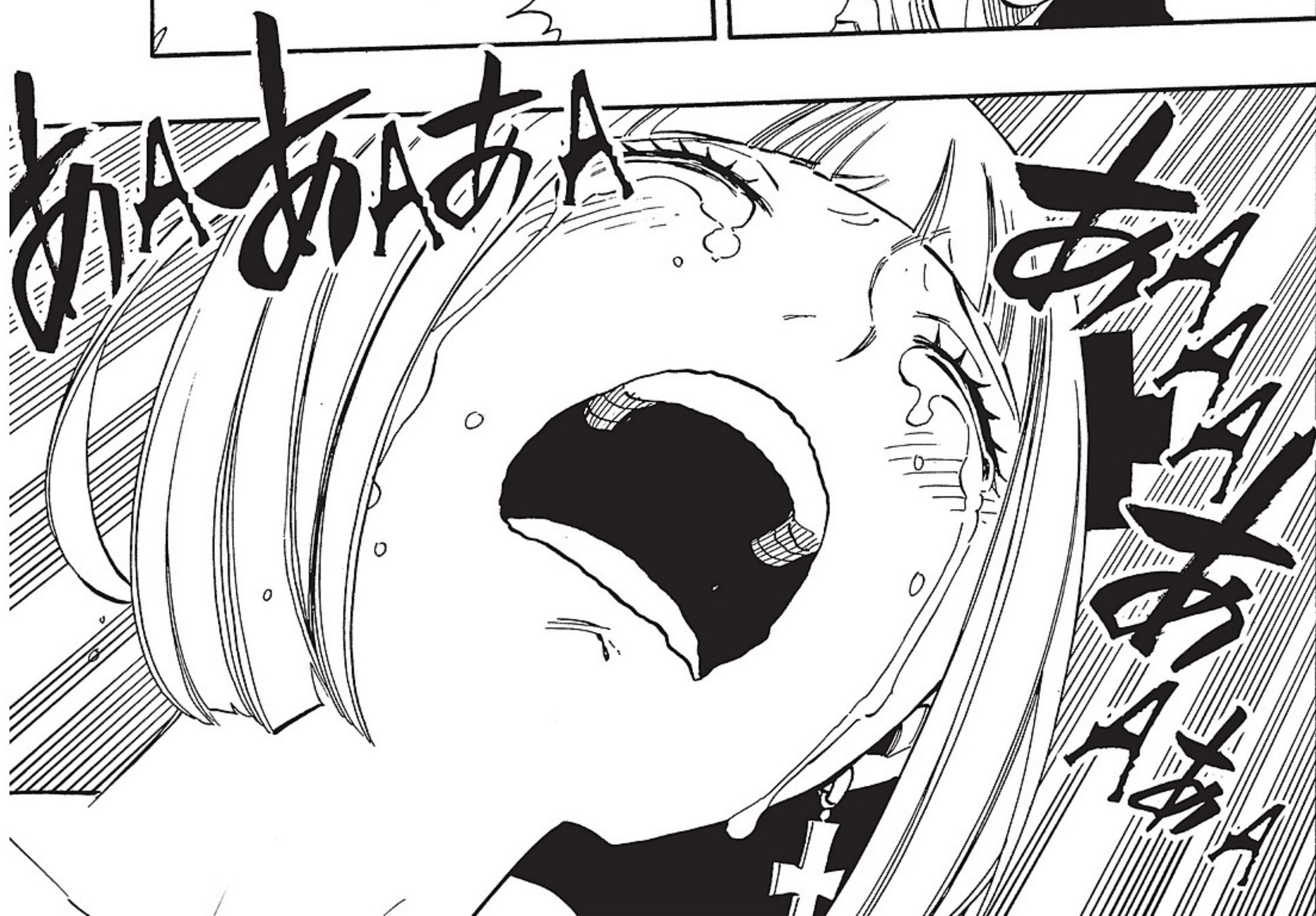


Mother  
!!!

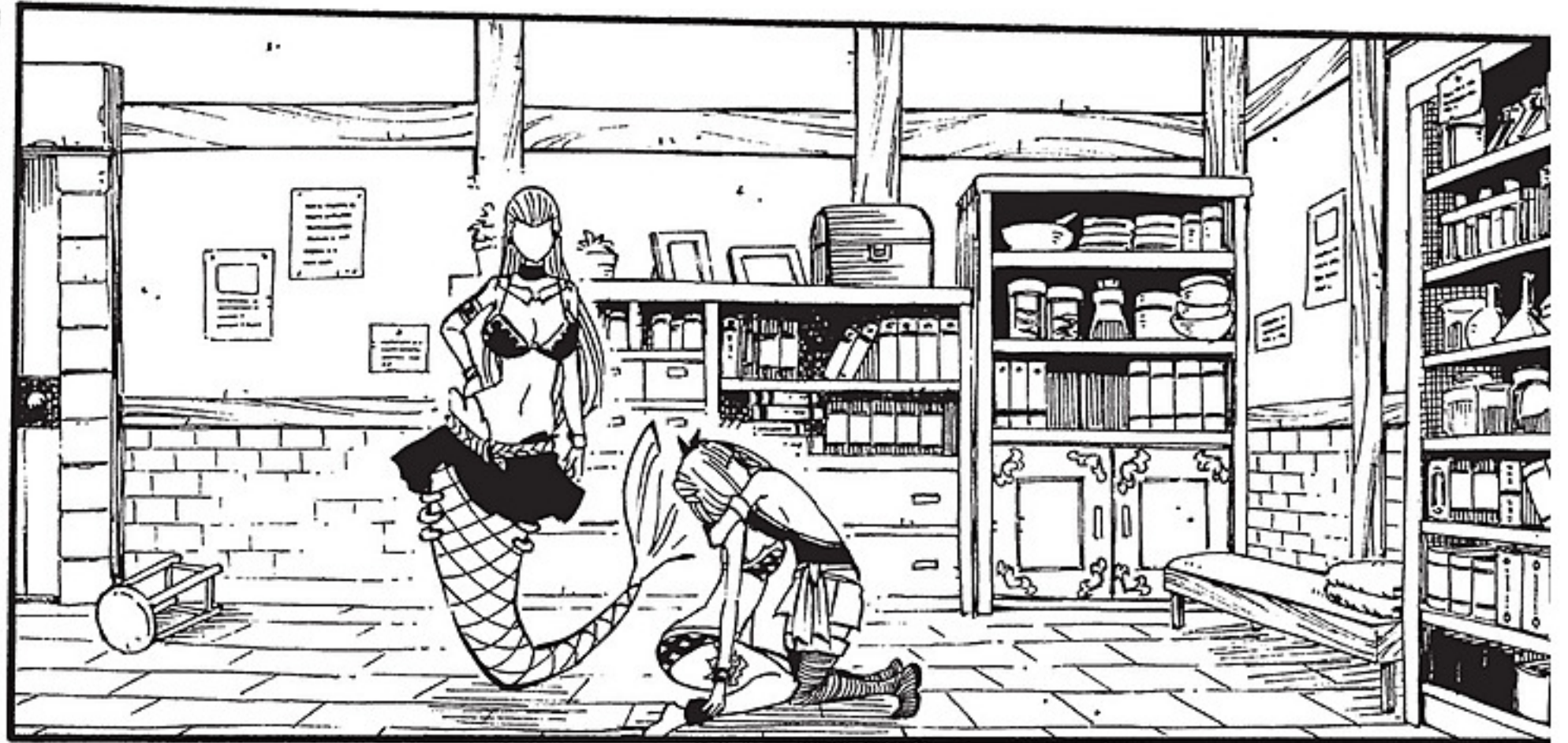
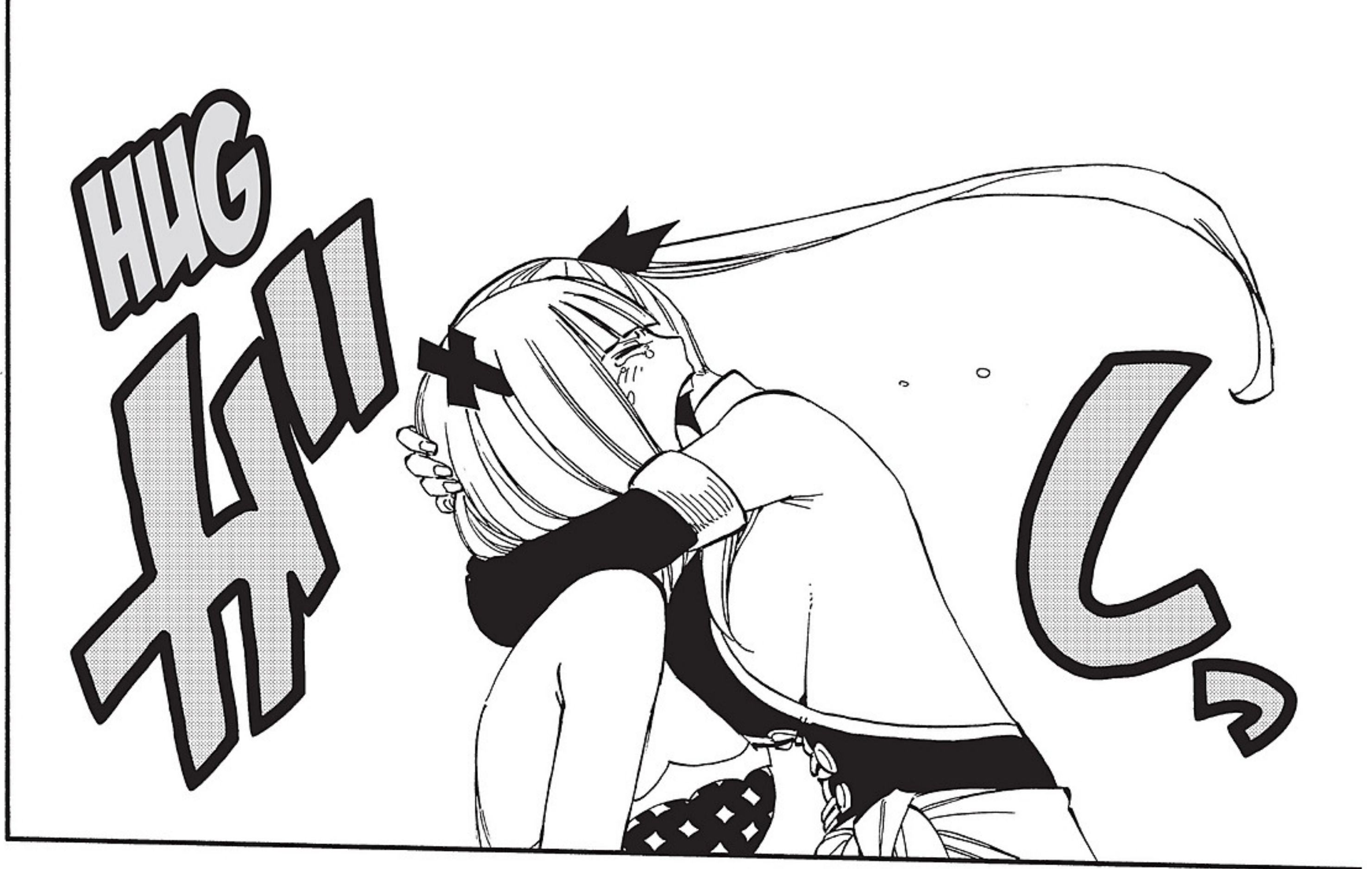


Aaaa  
...

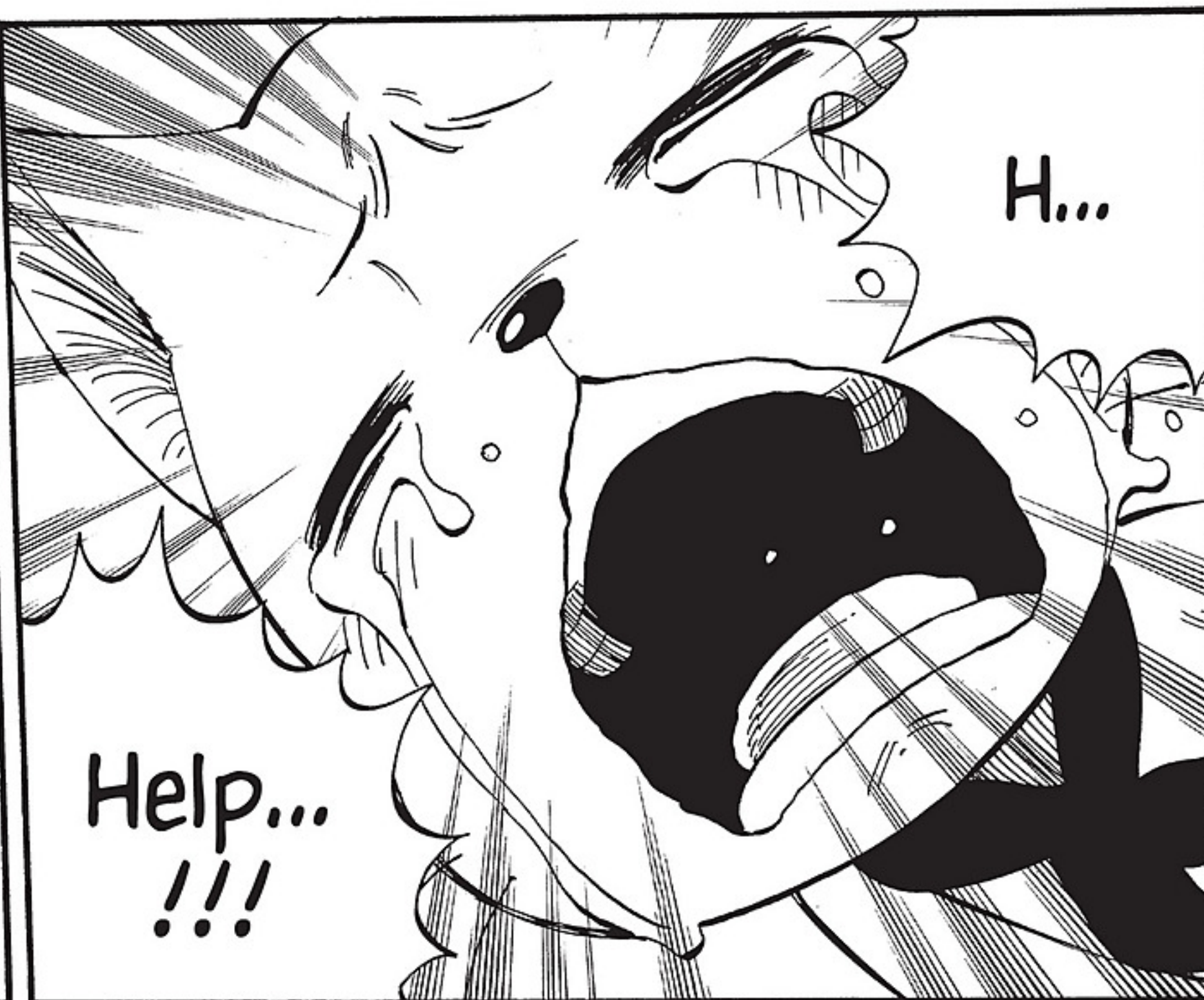
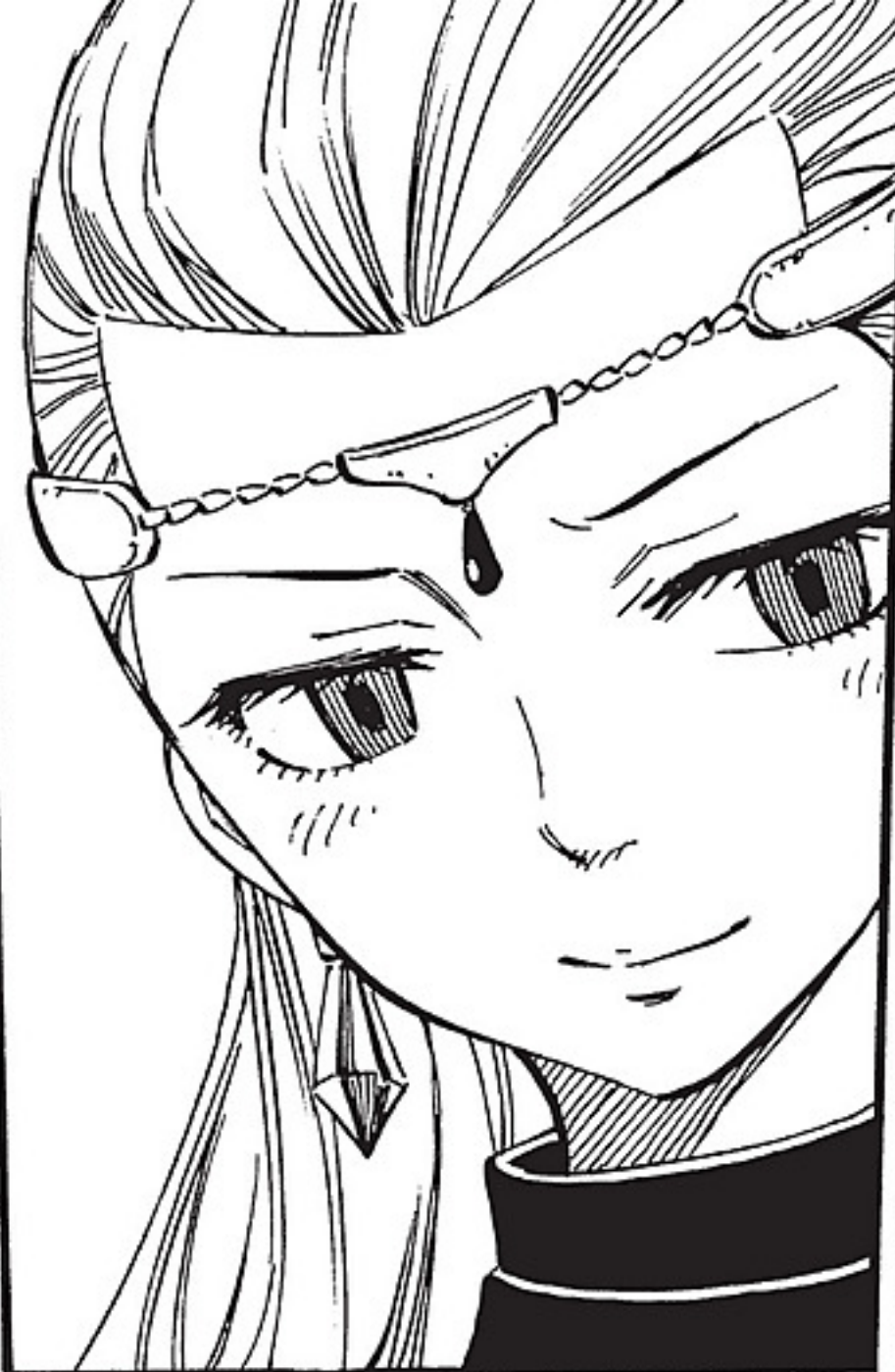
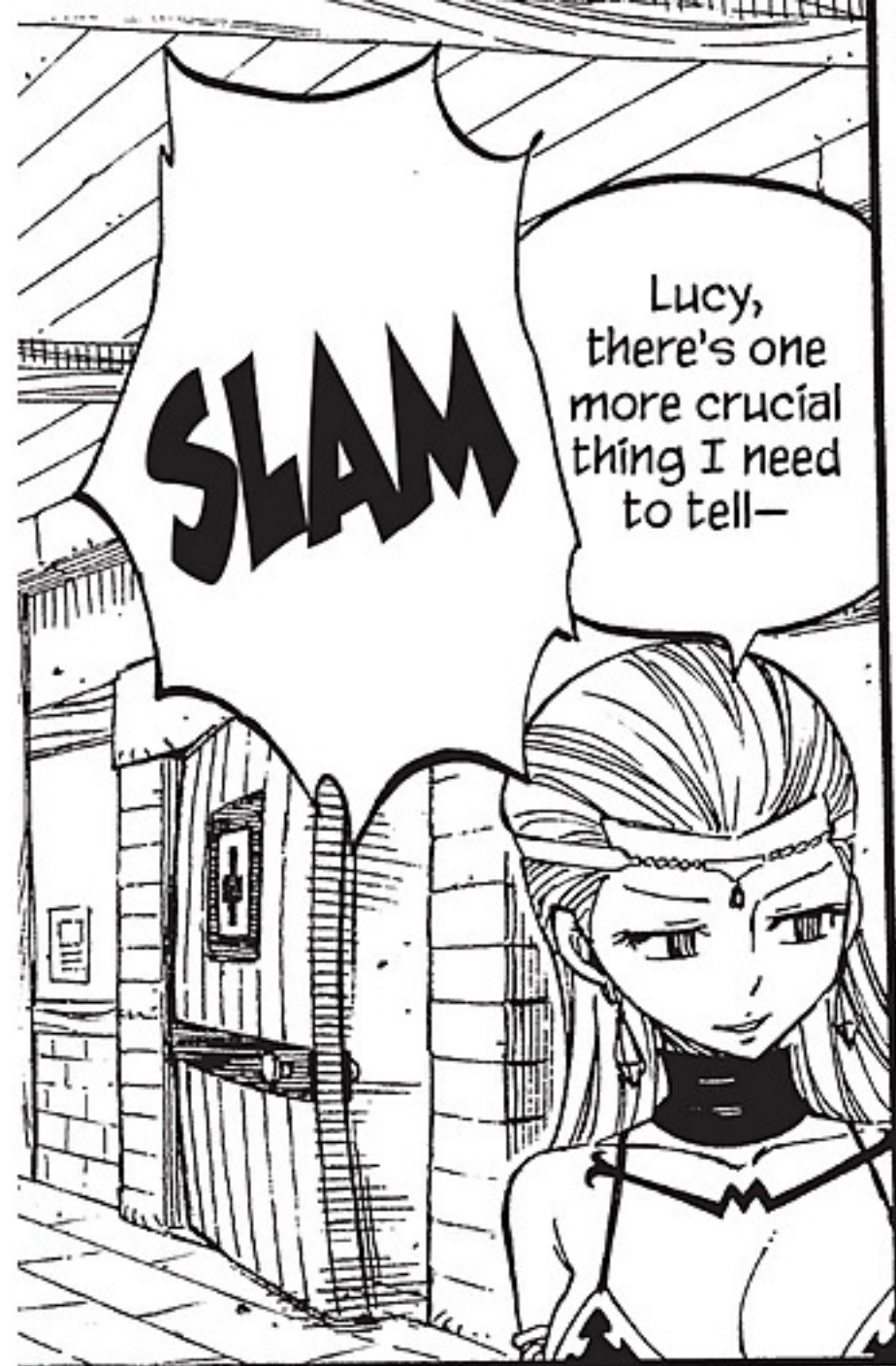
Aaaa  
...



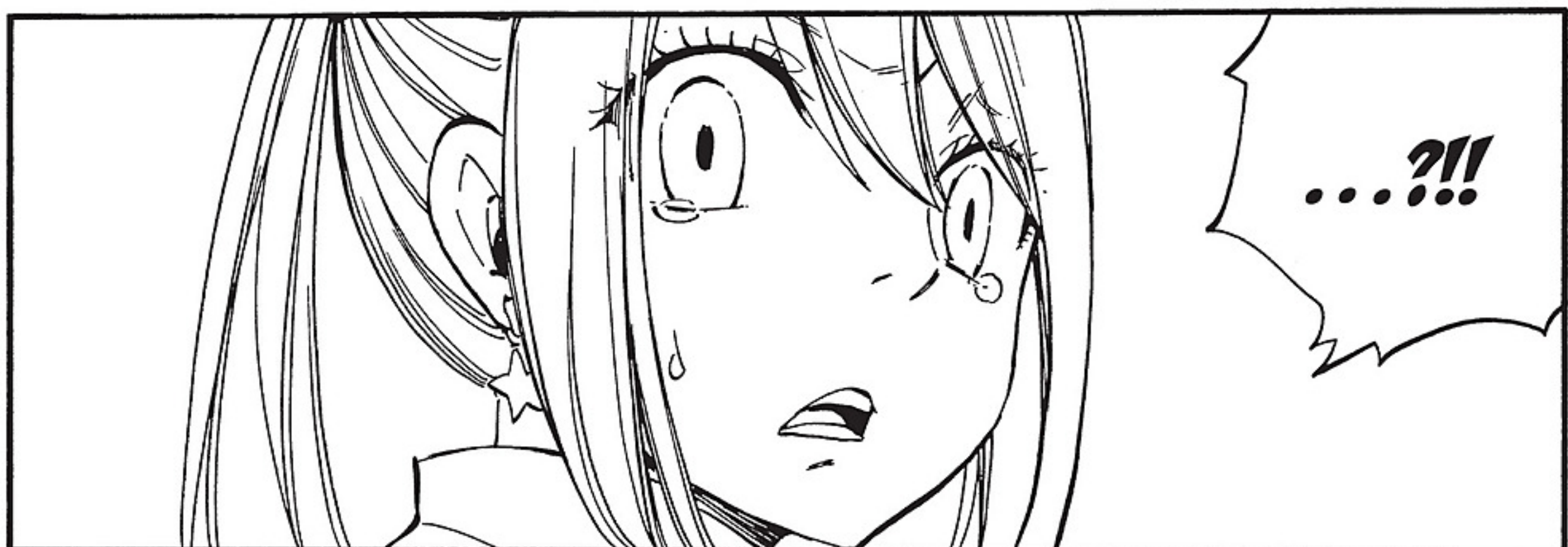














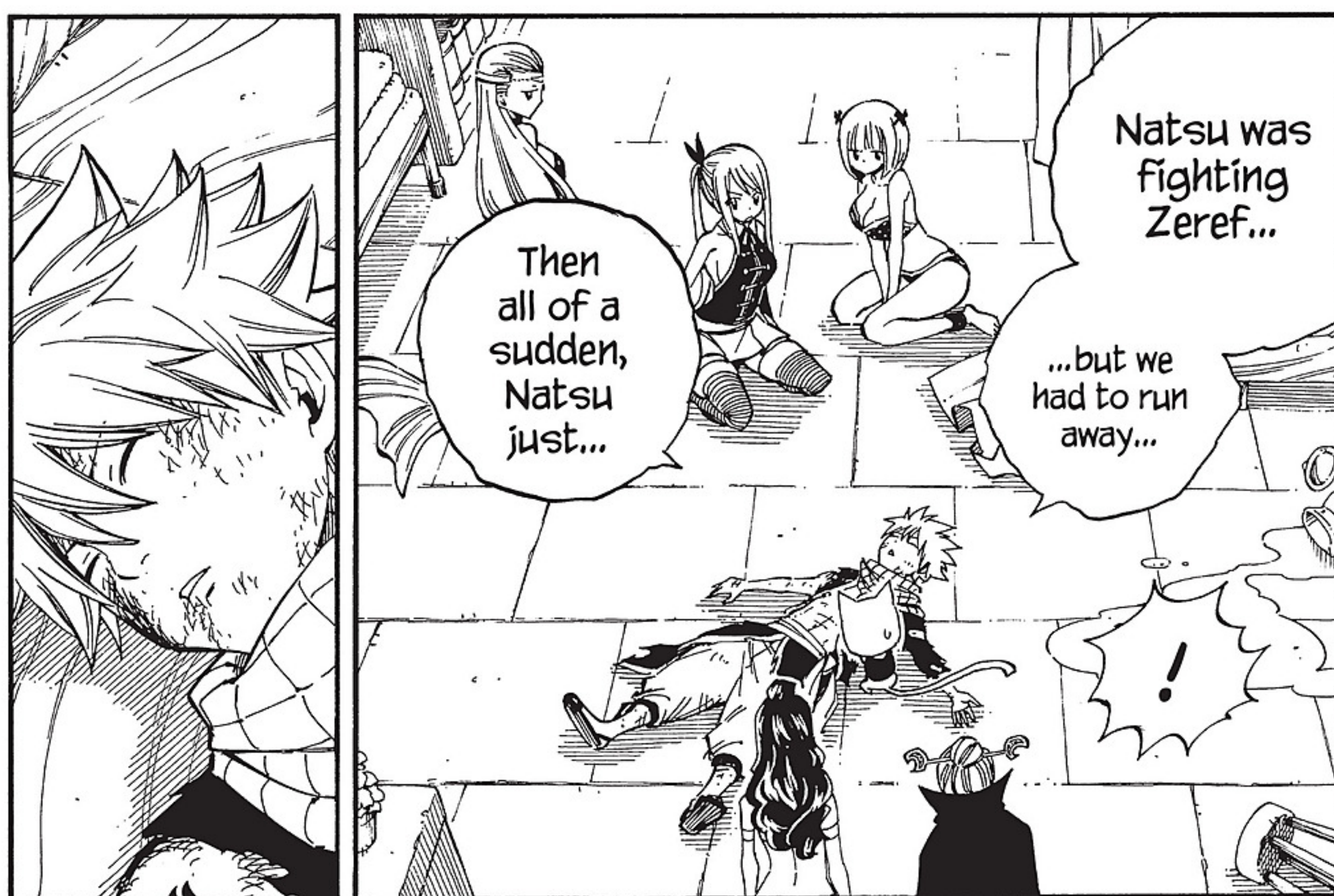
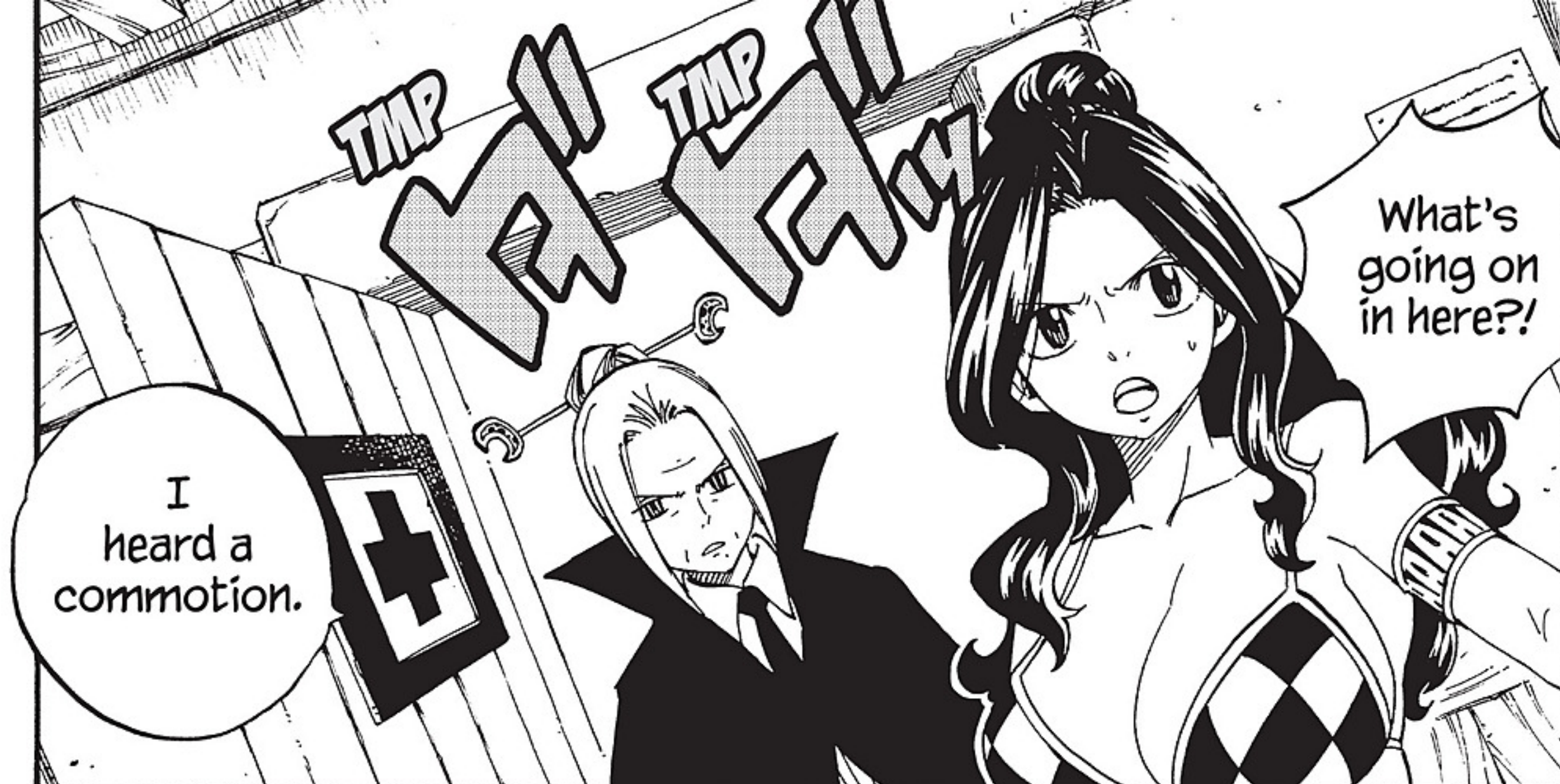
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

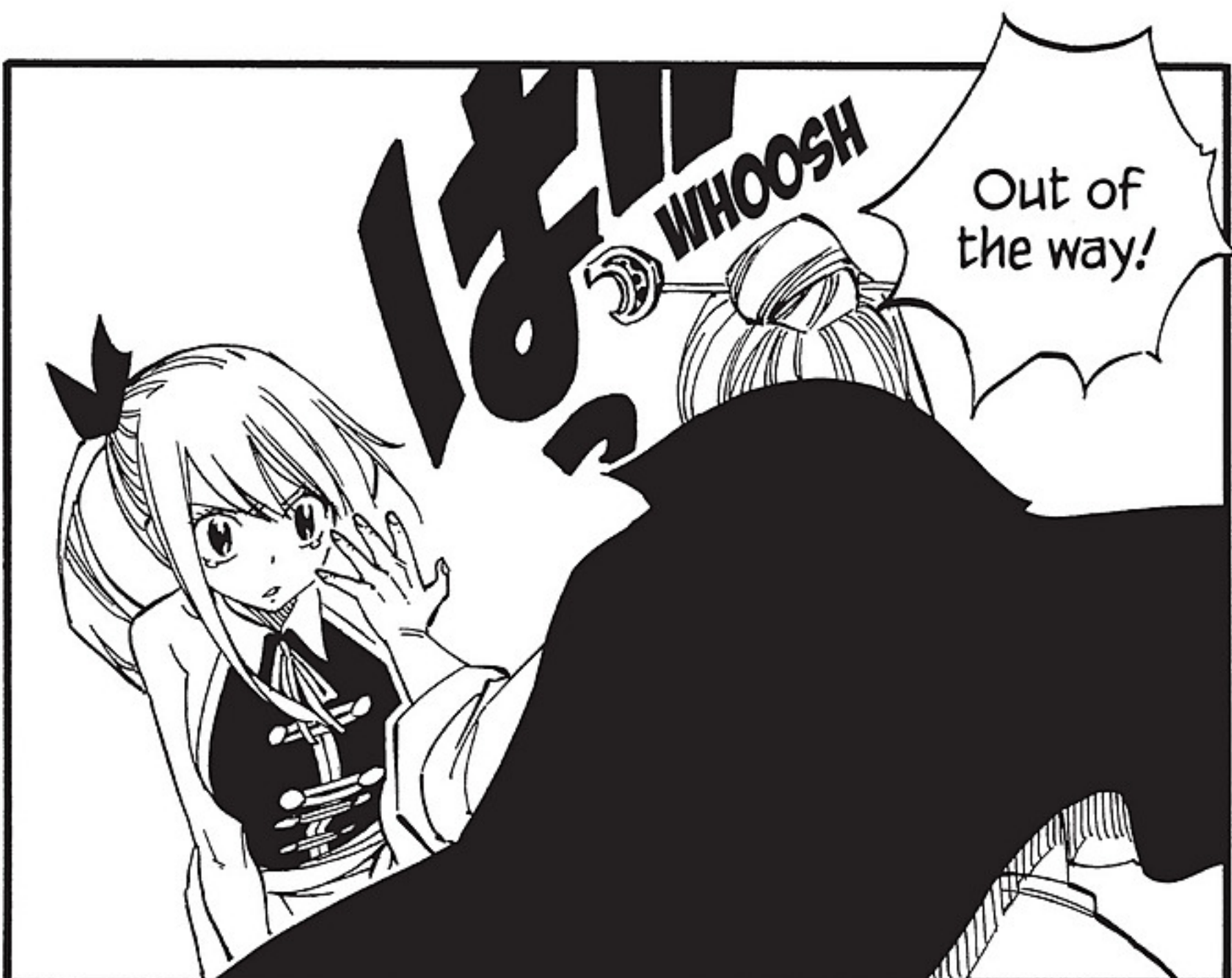
## Chapter 469: What I Want to Do



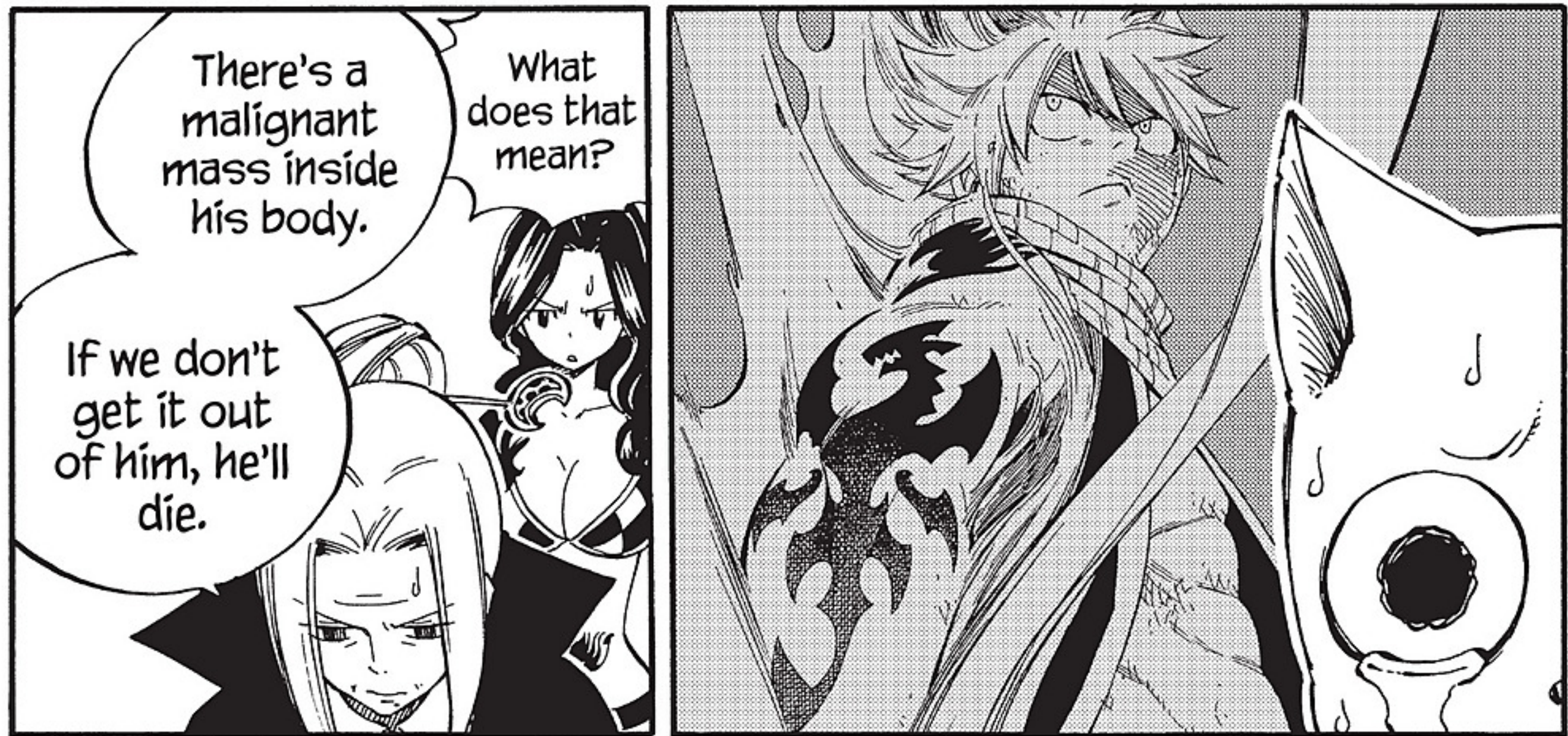
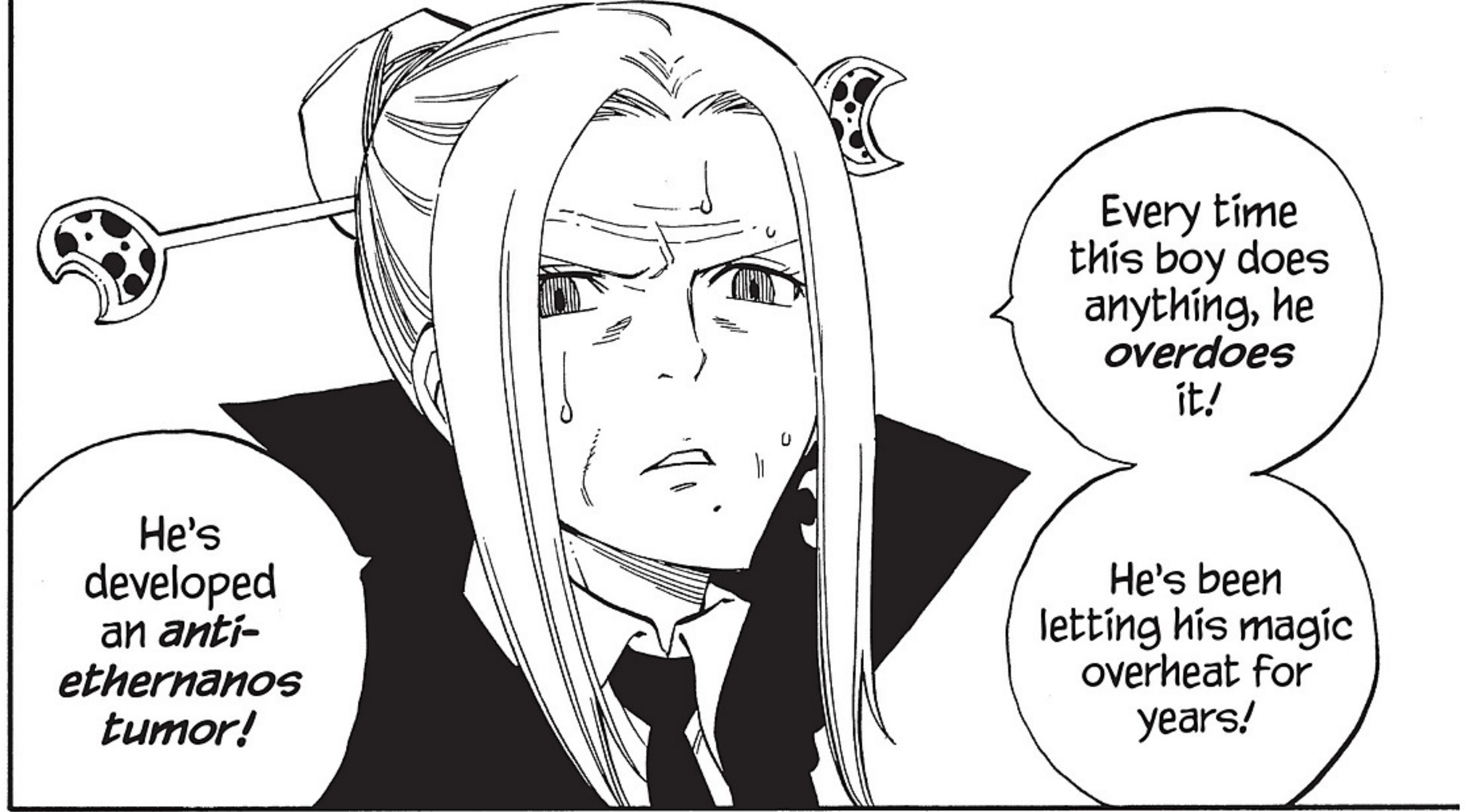




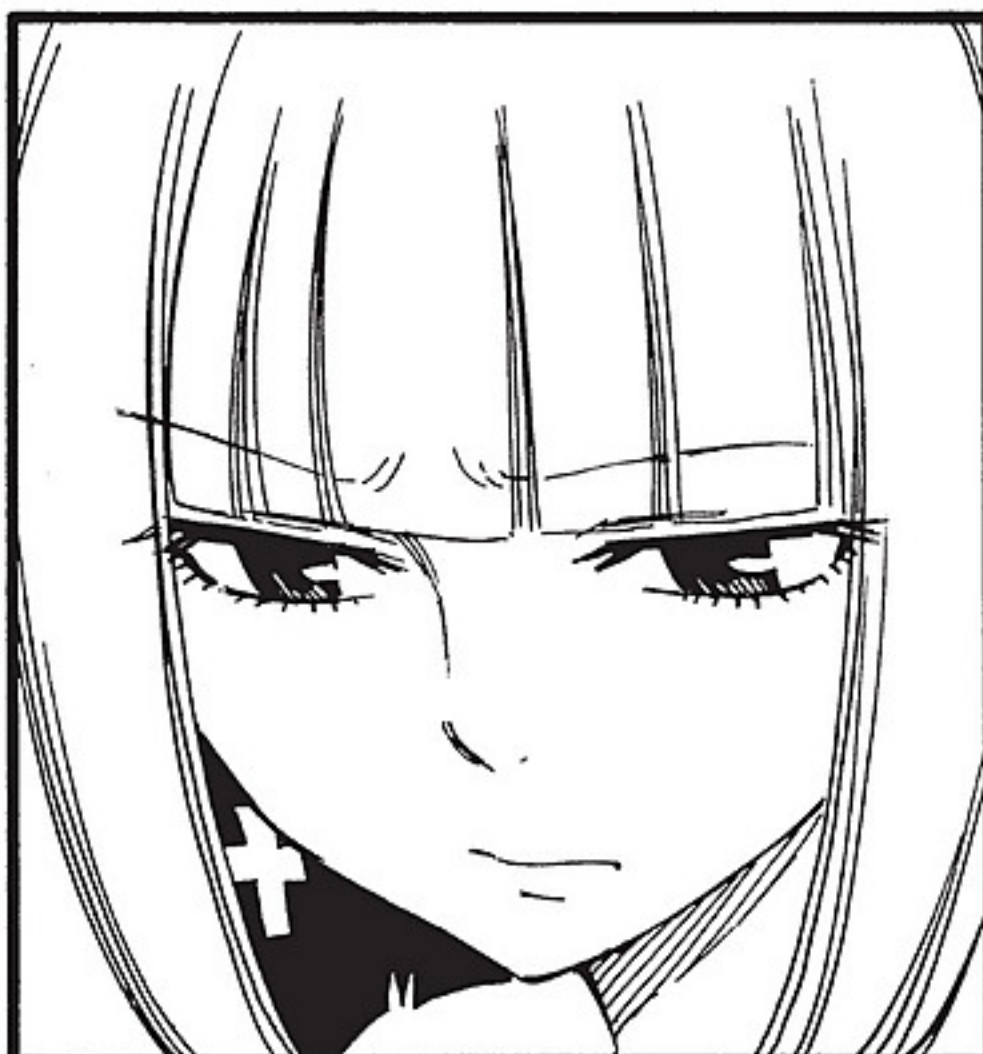
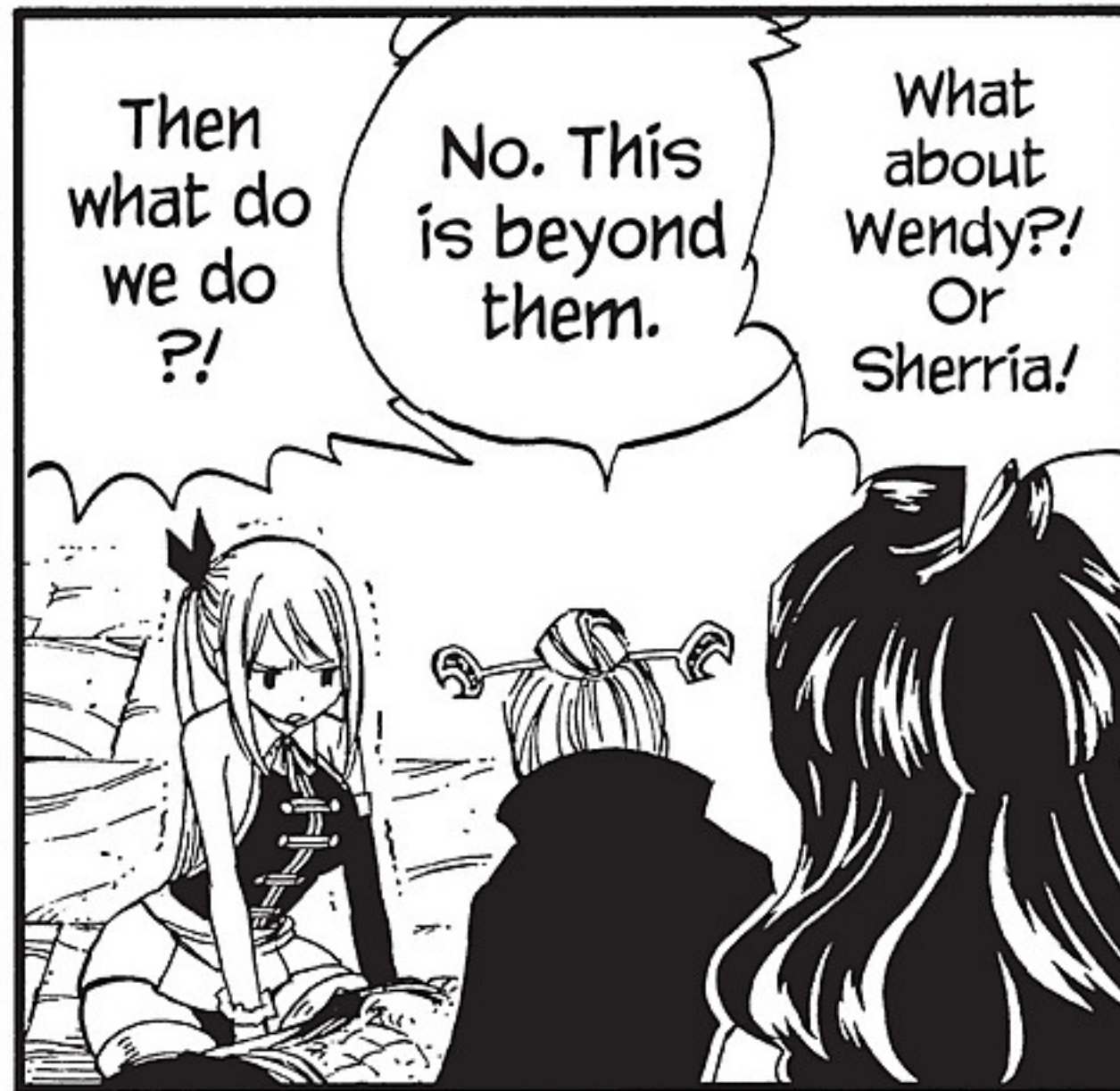




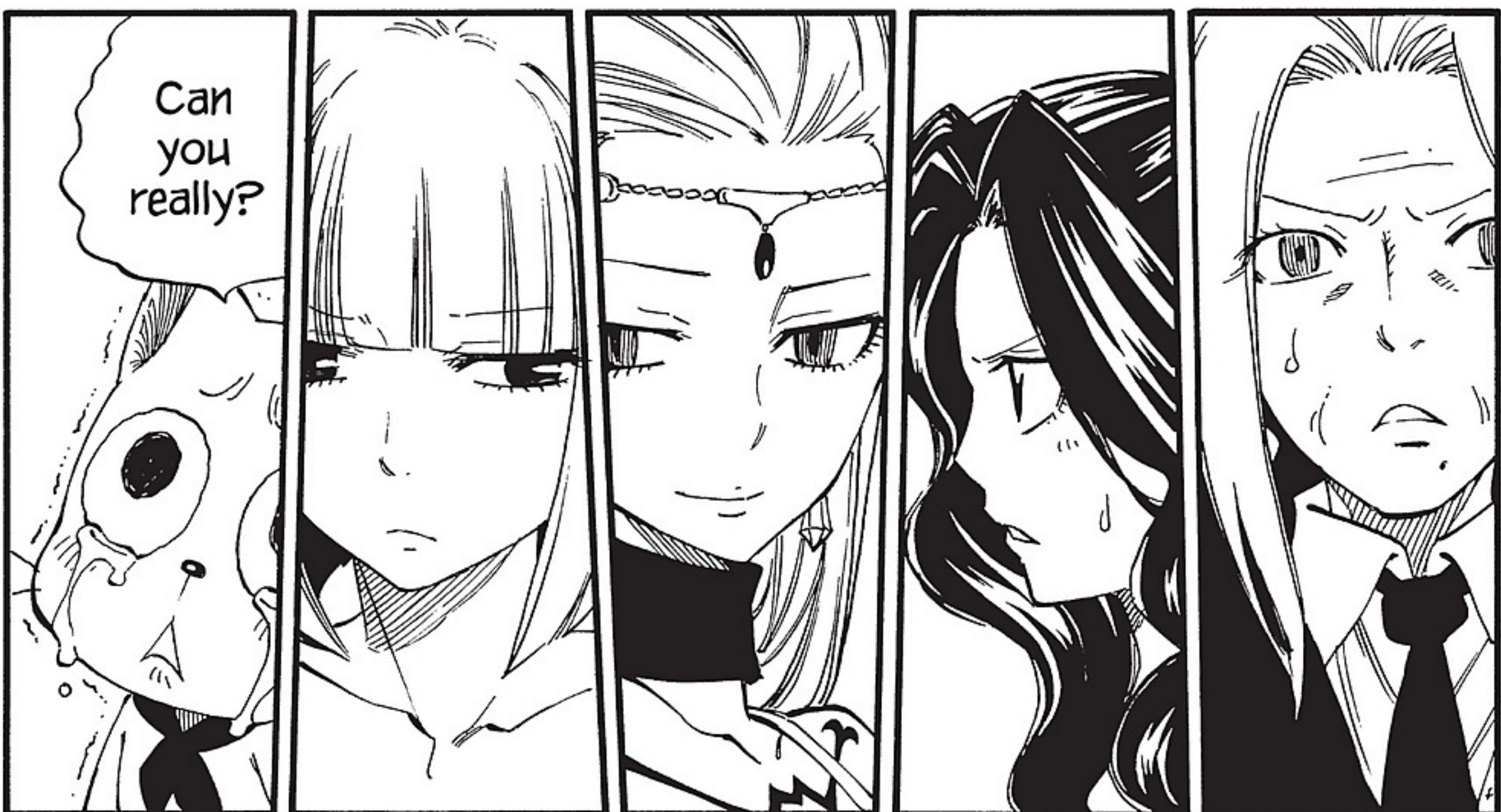
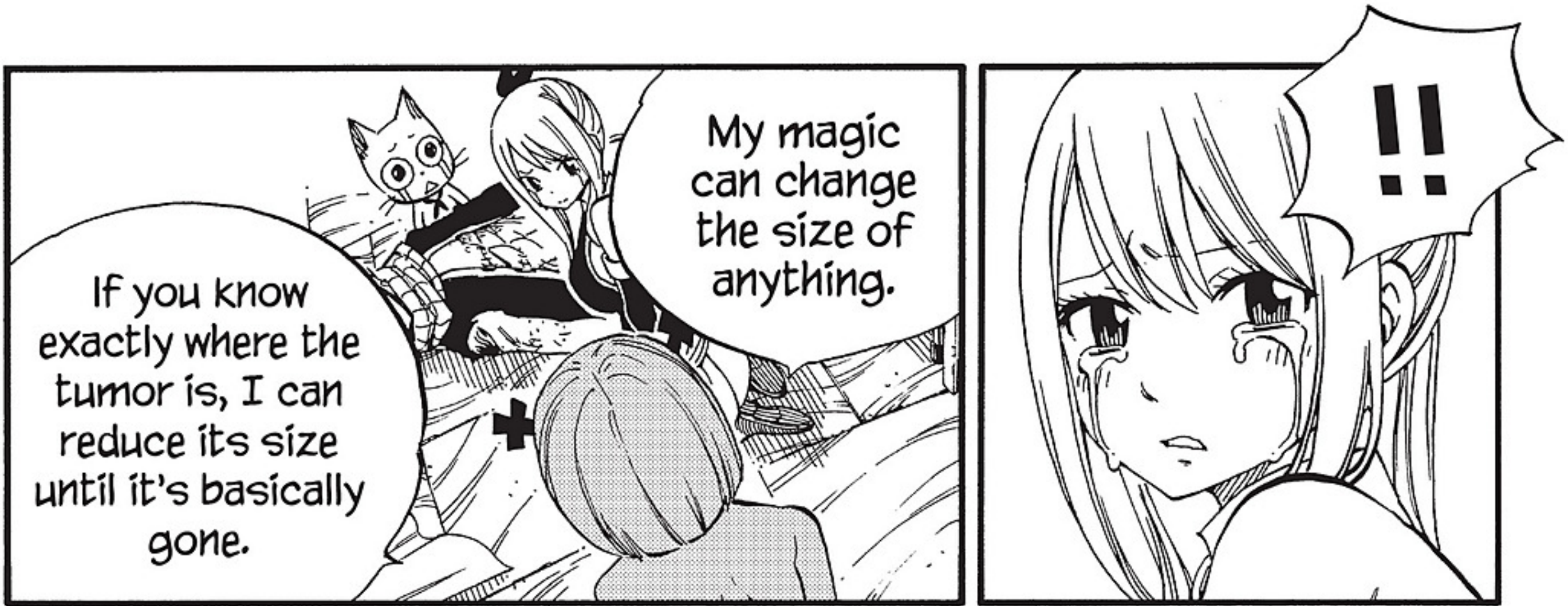
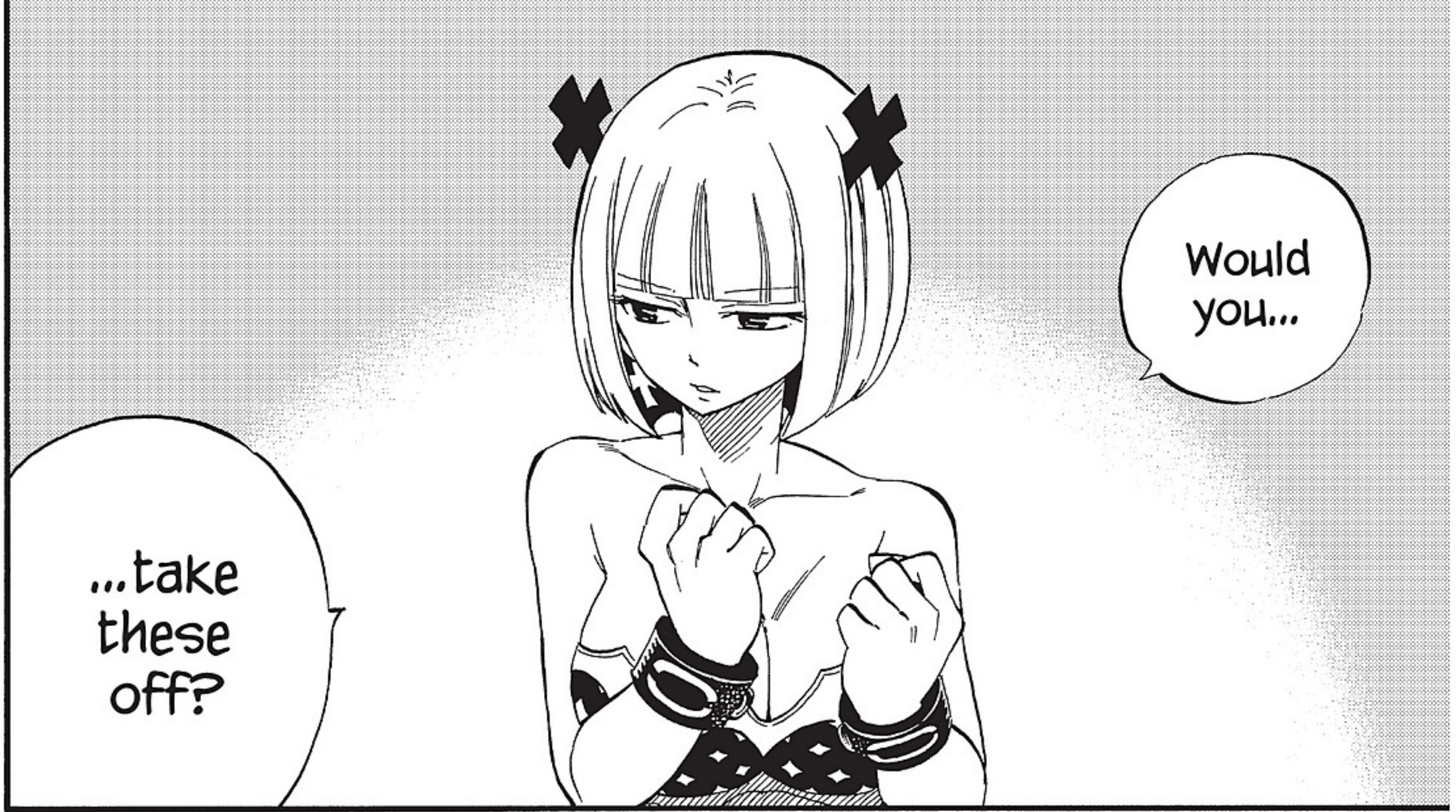




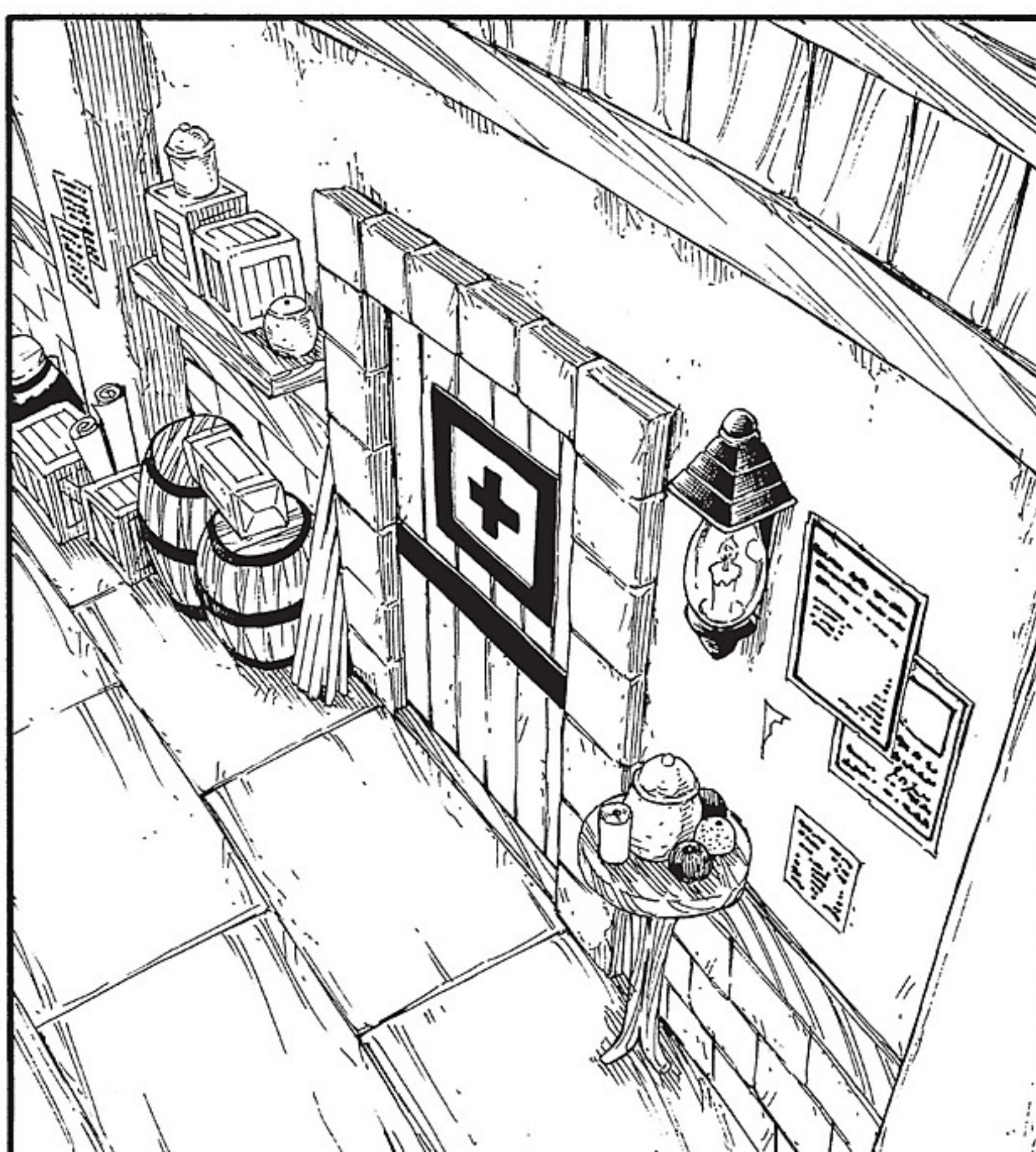




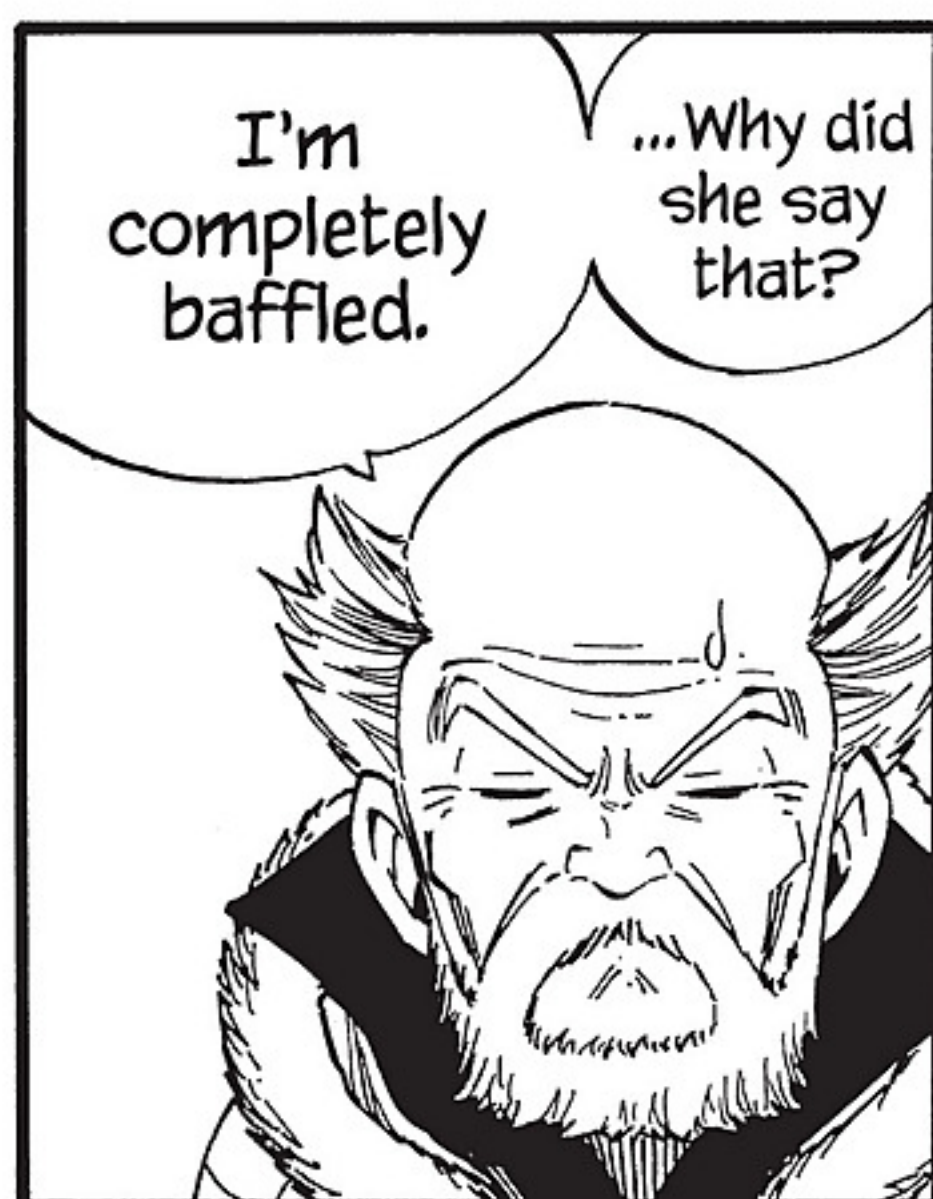
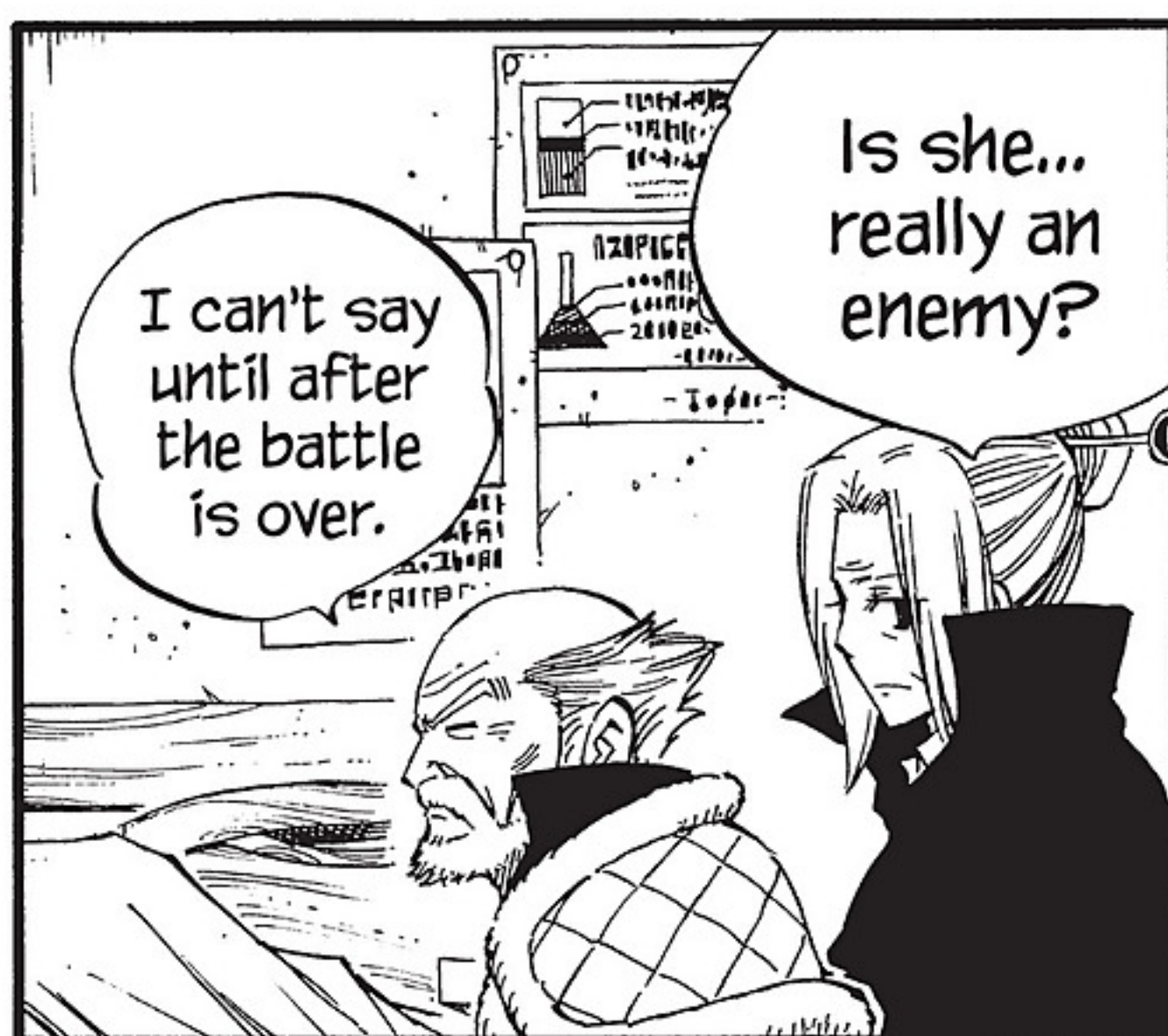
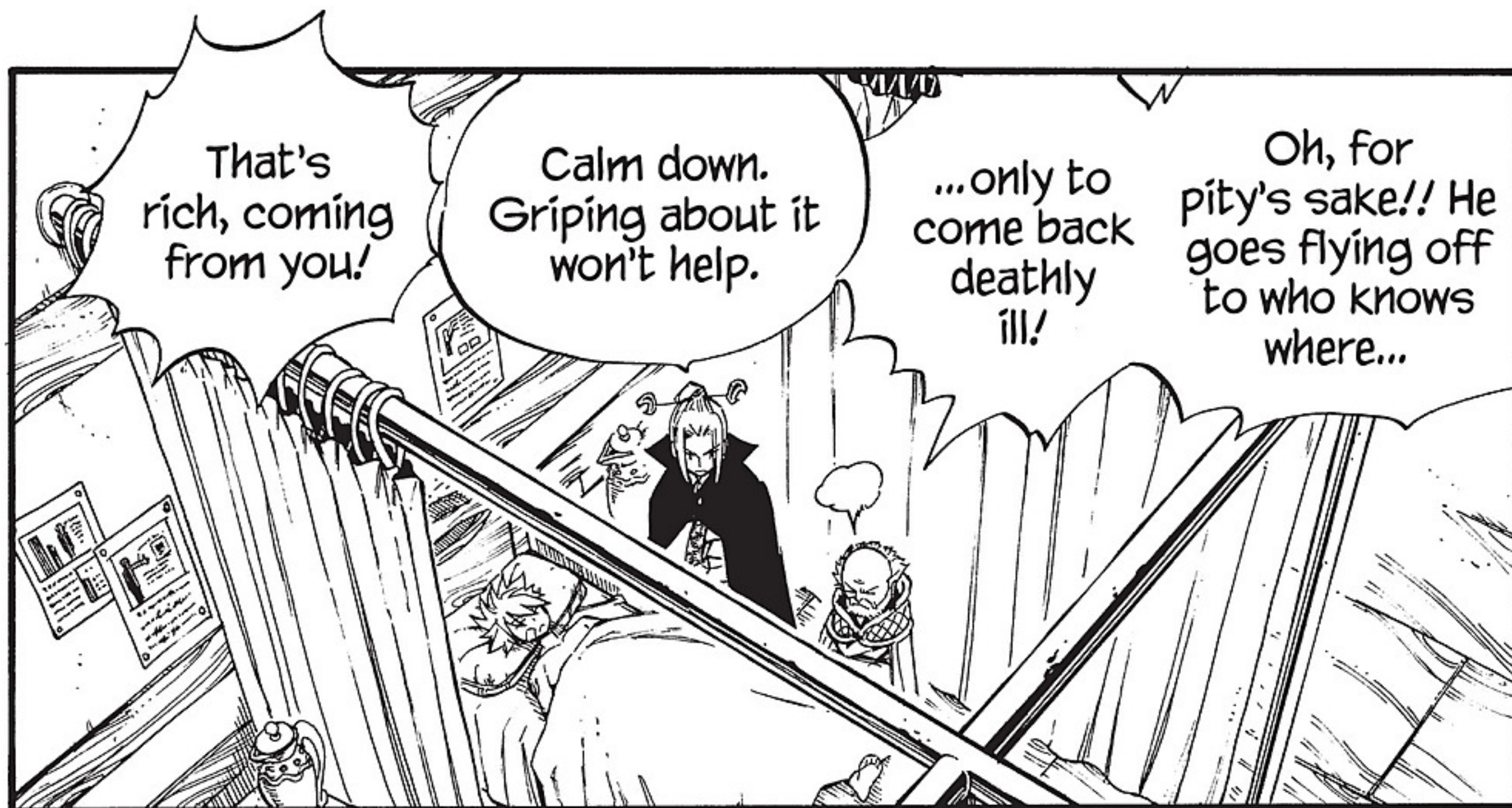




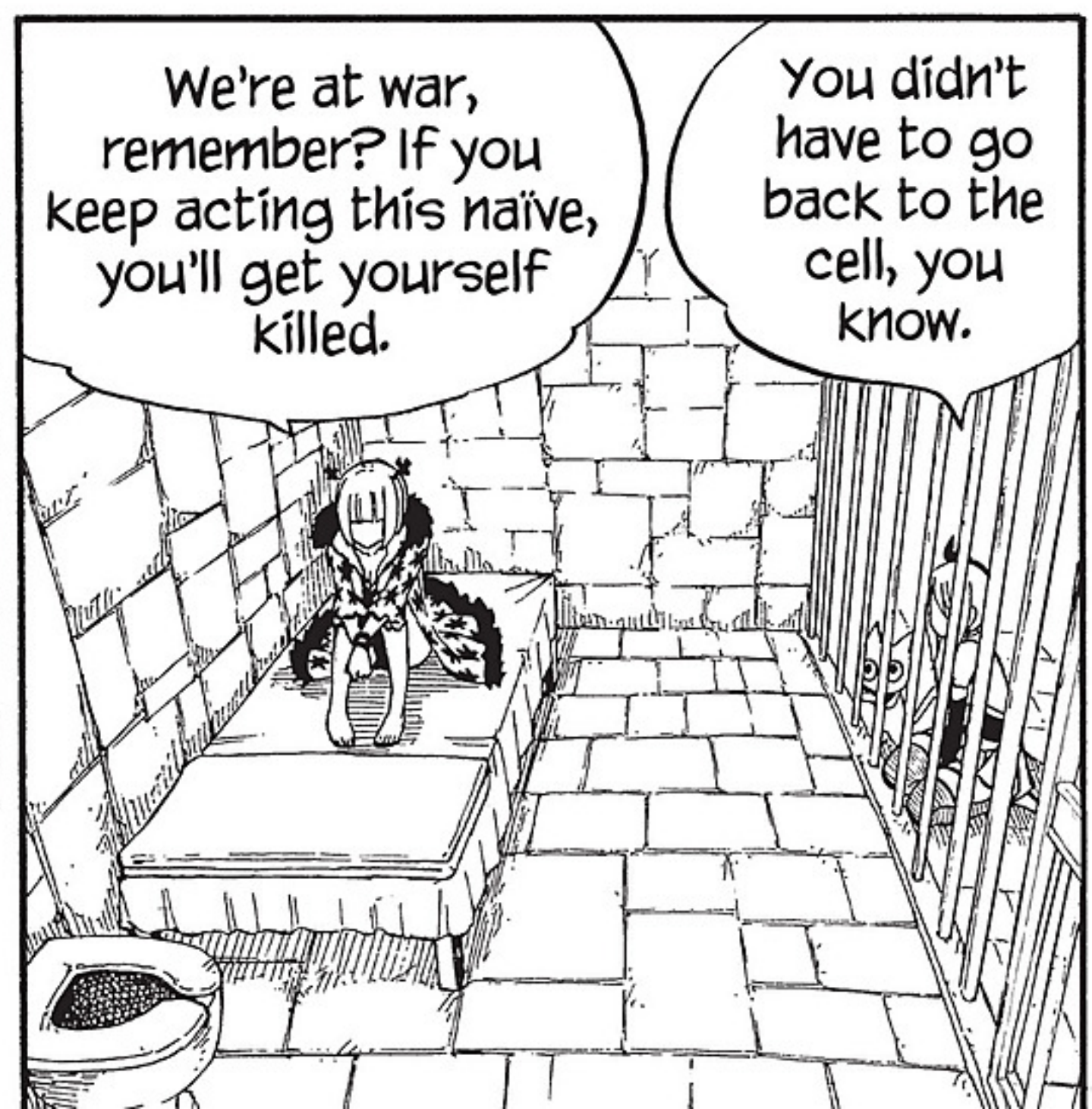
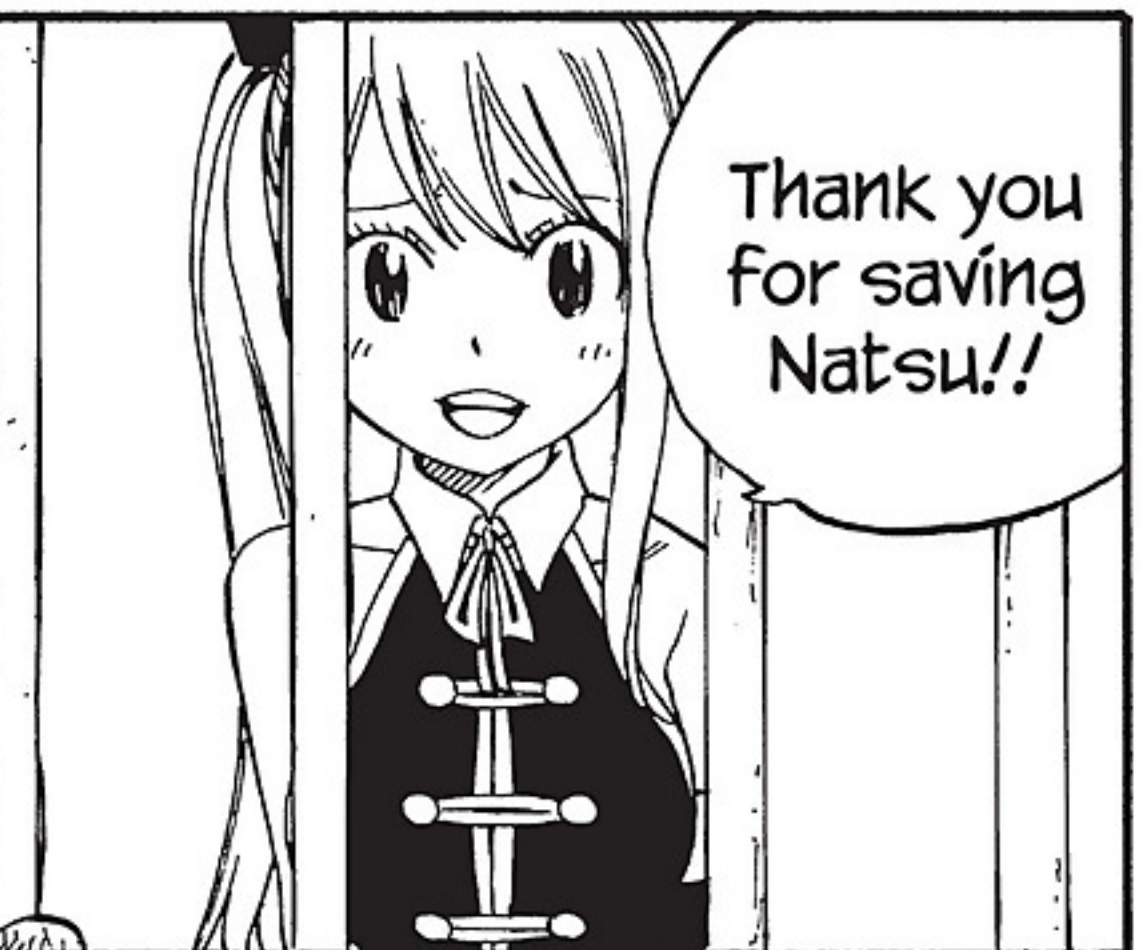
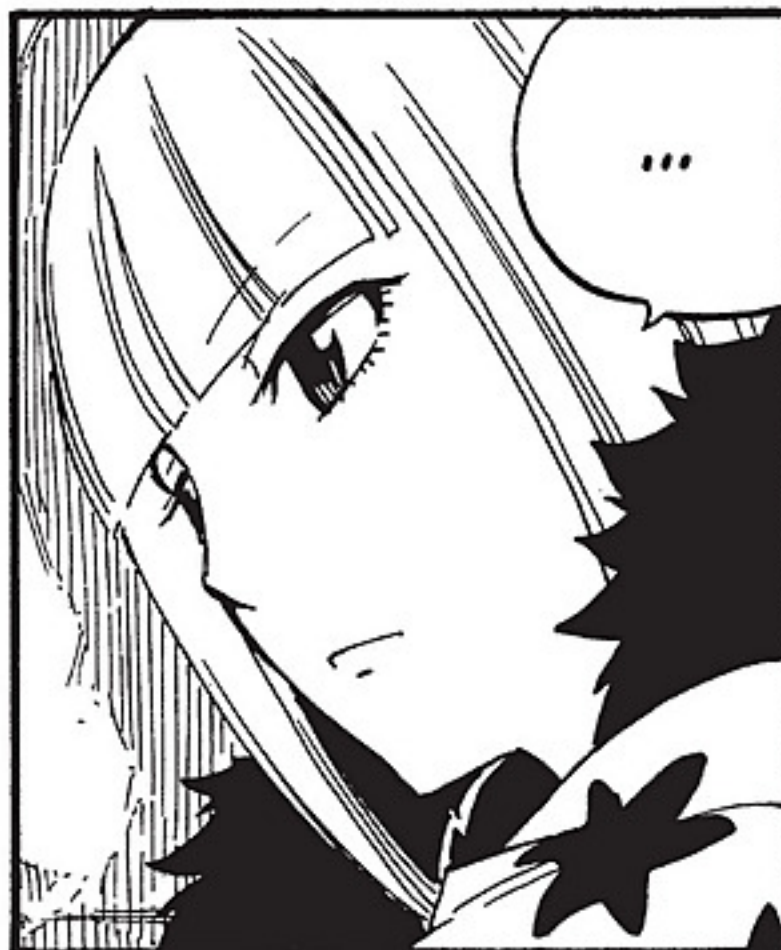
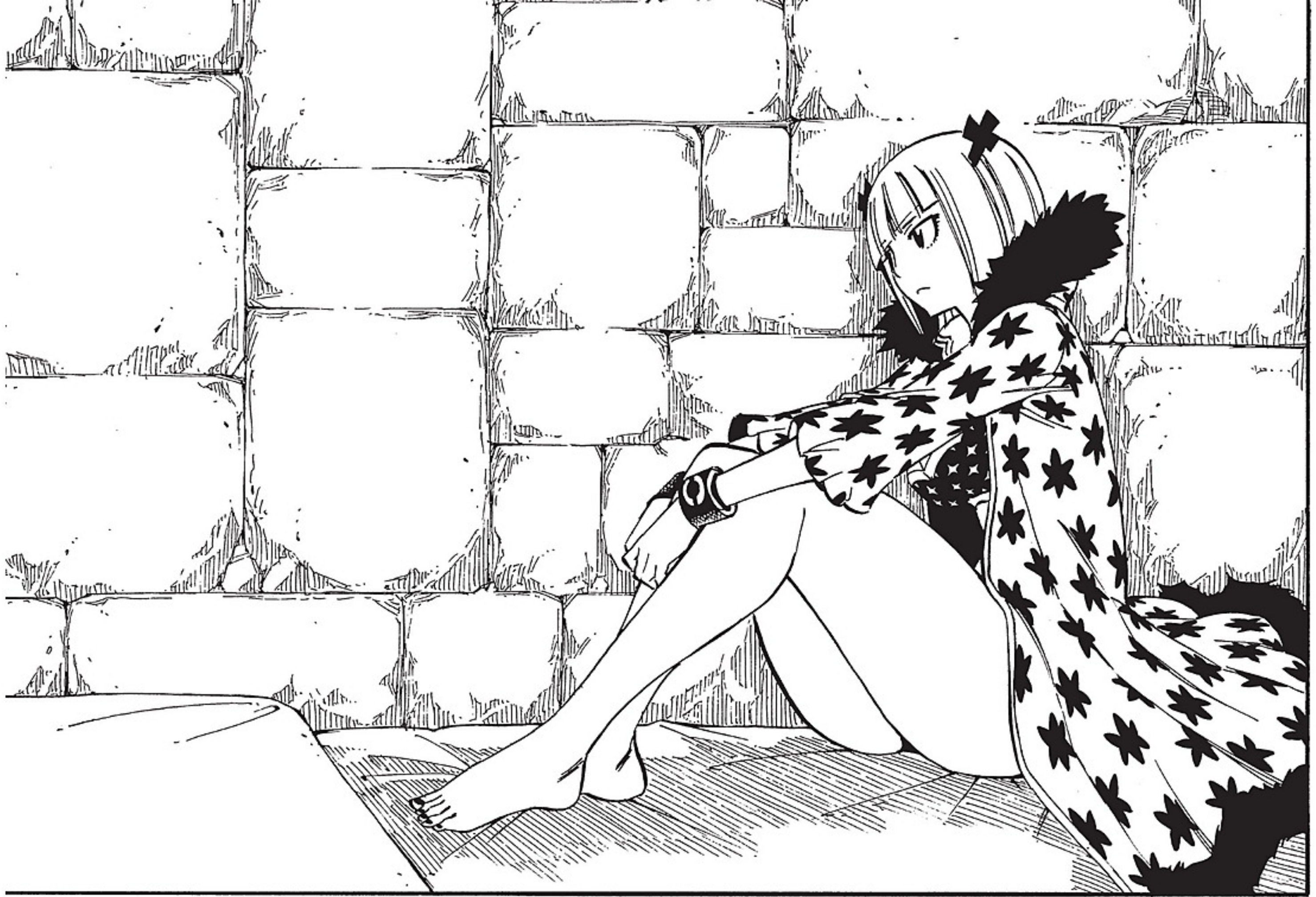




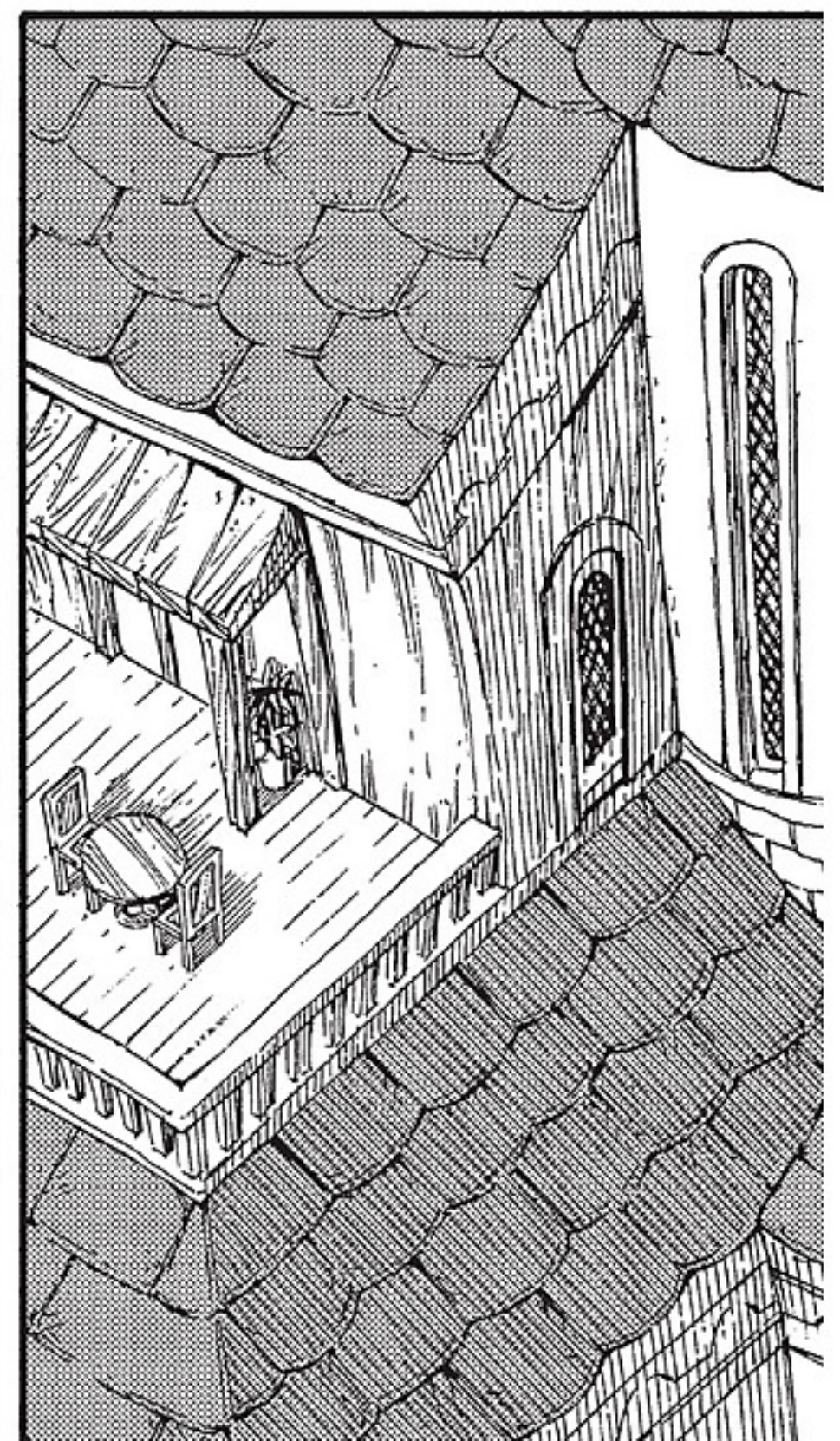
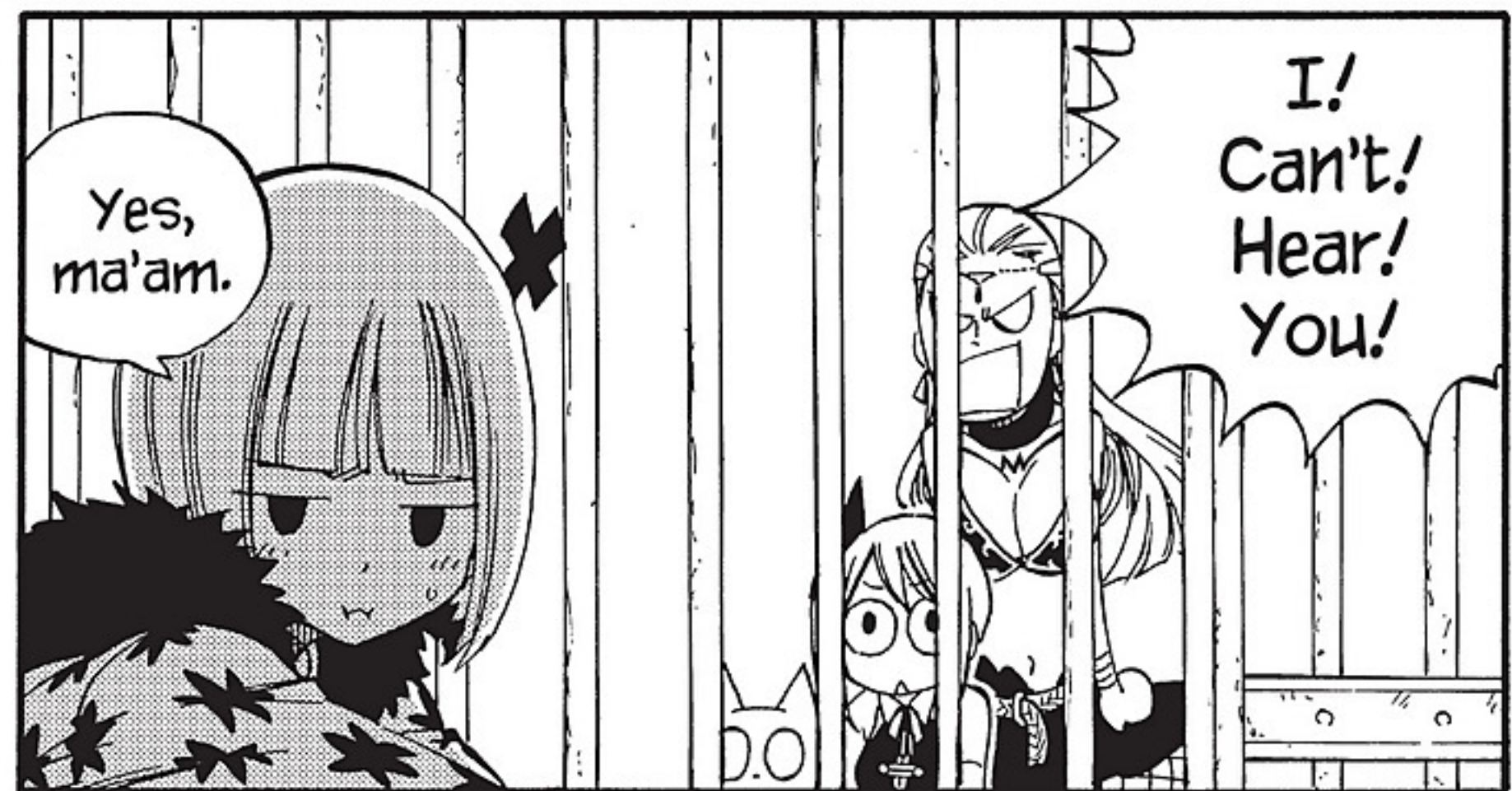
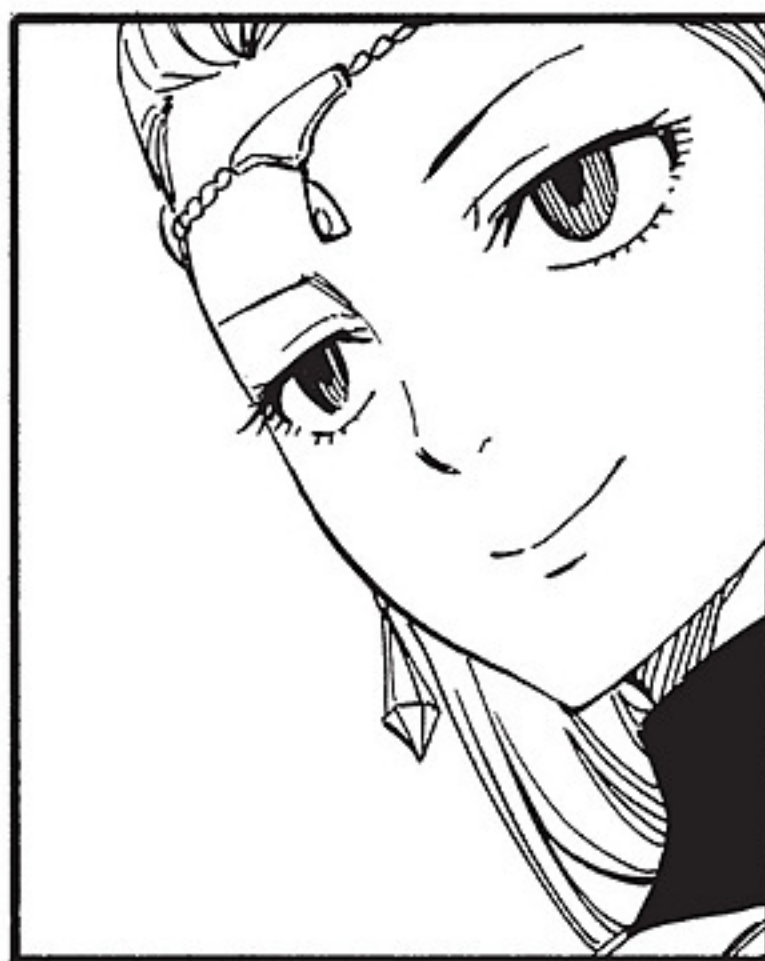
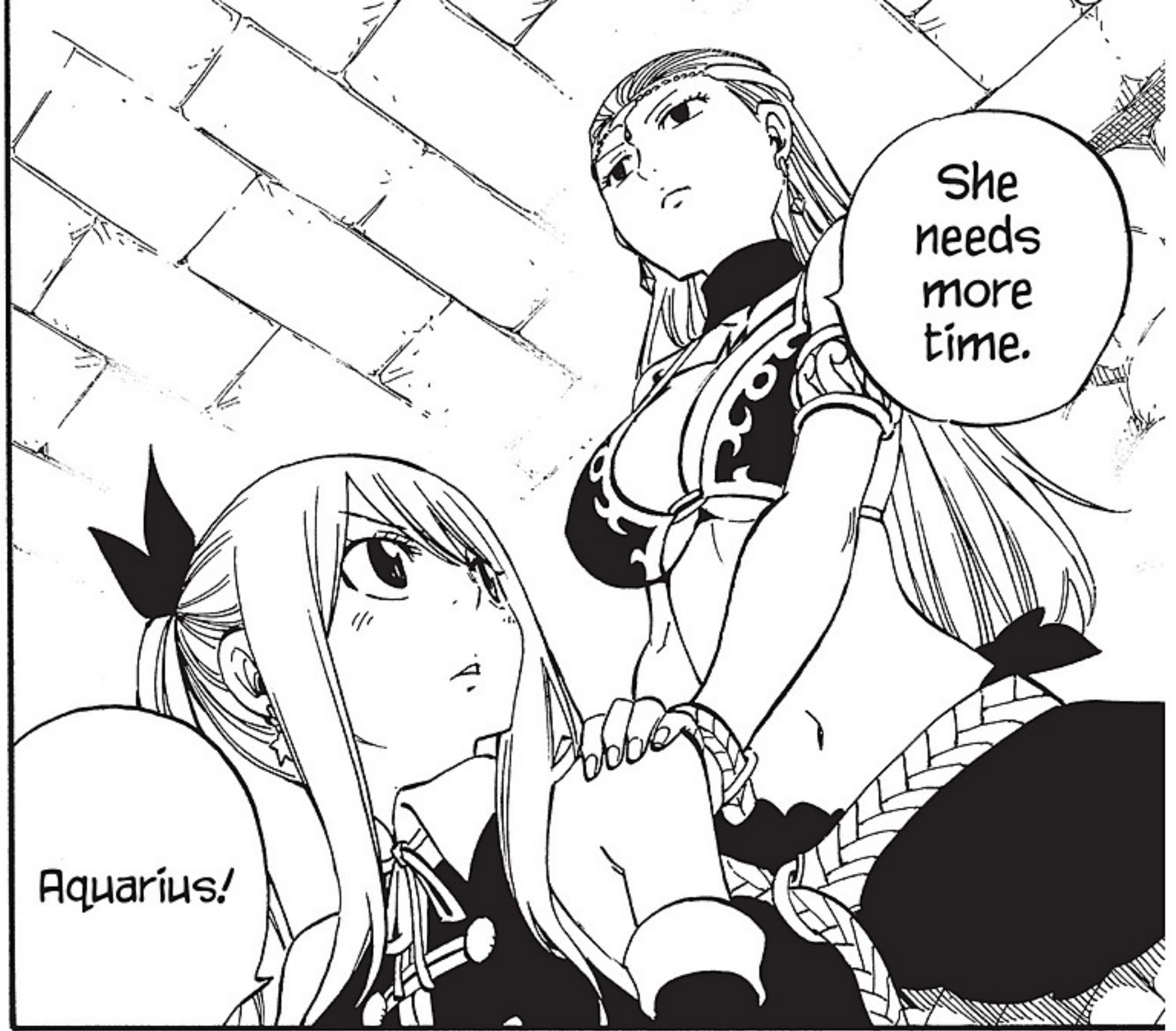
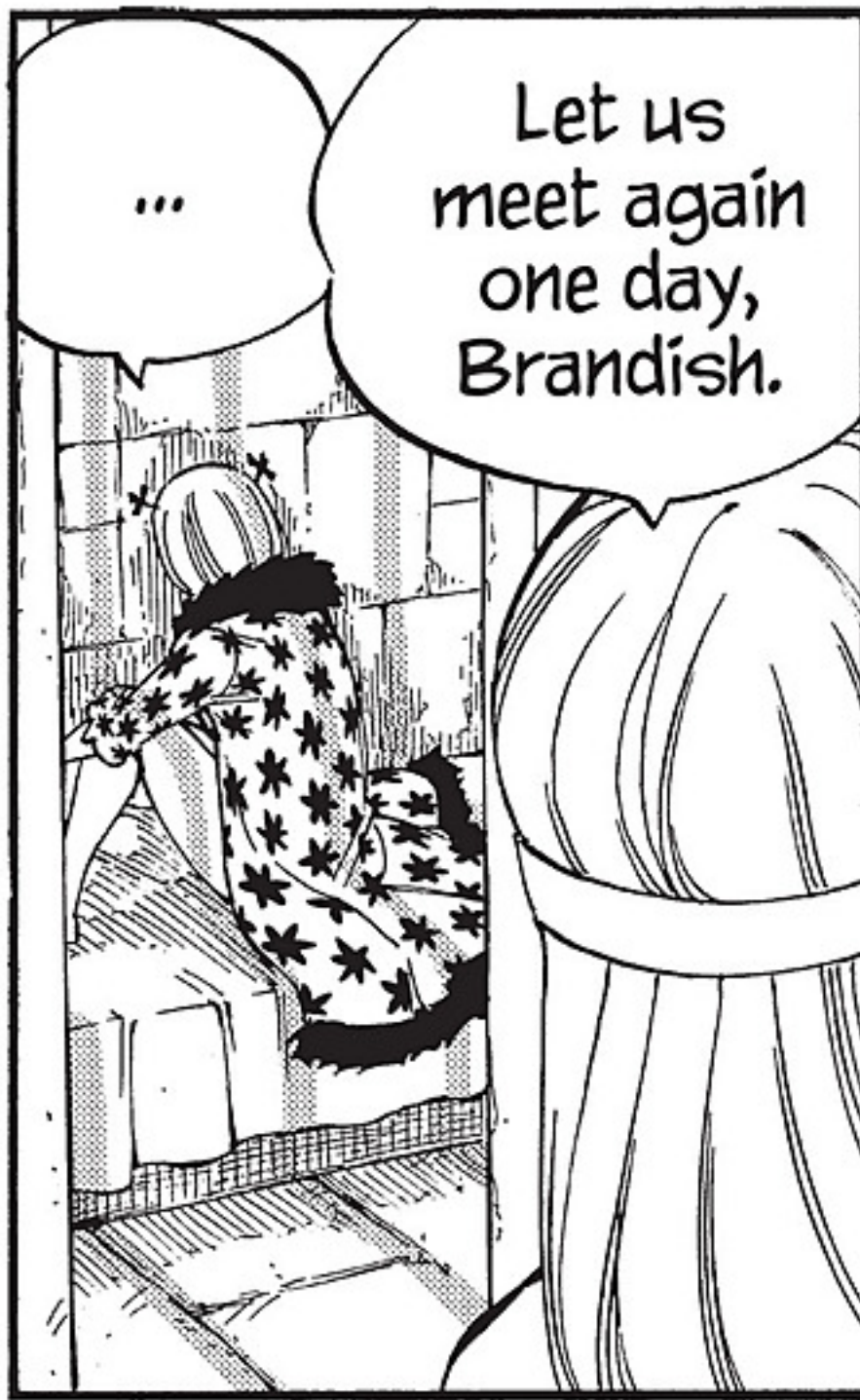




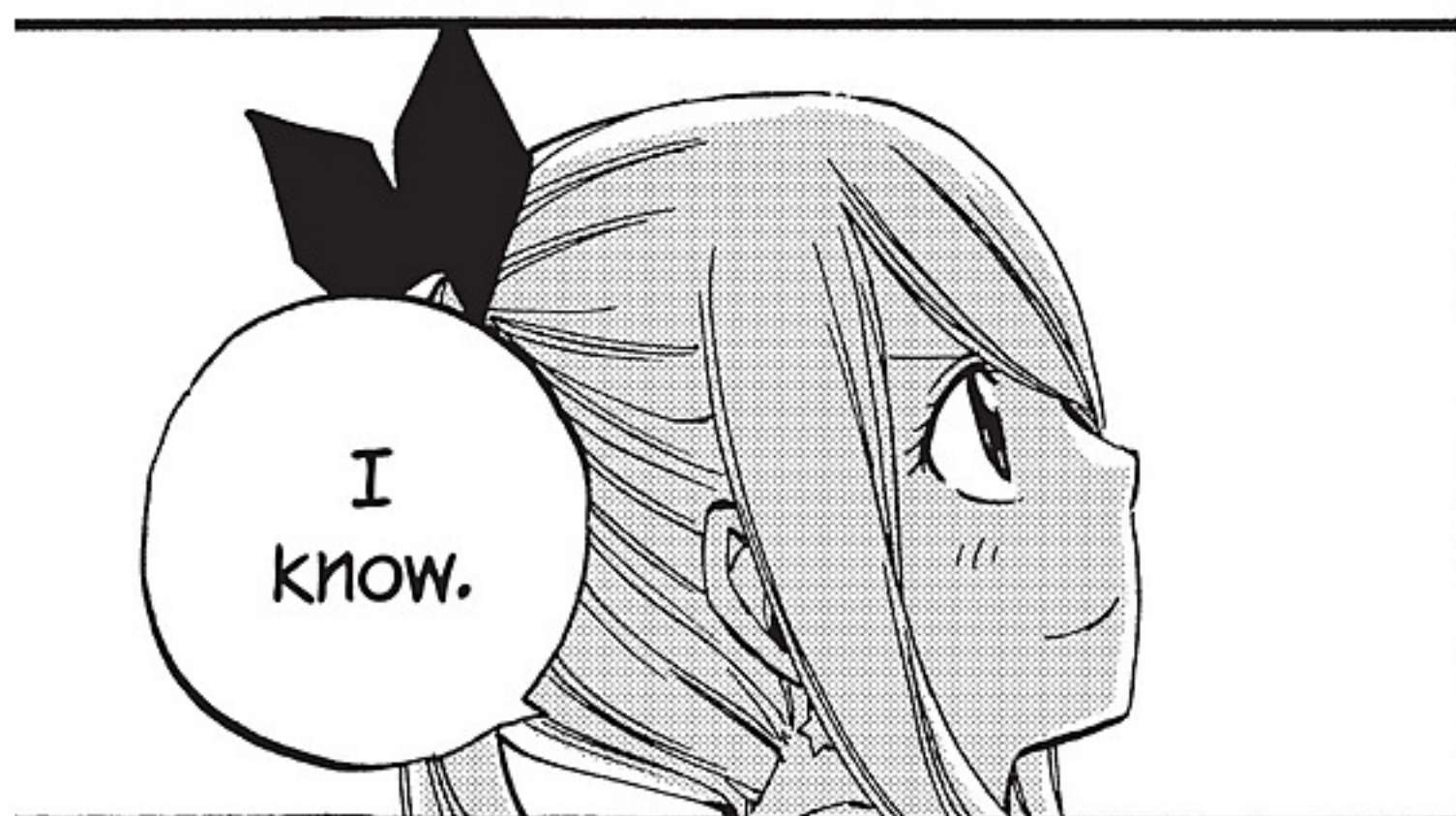
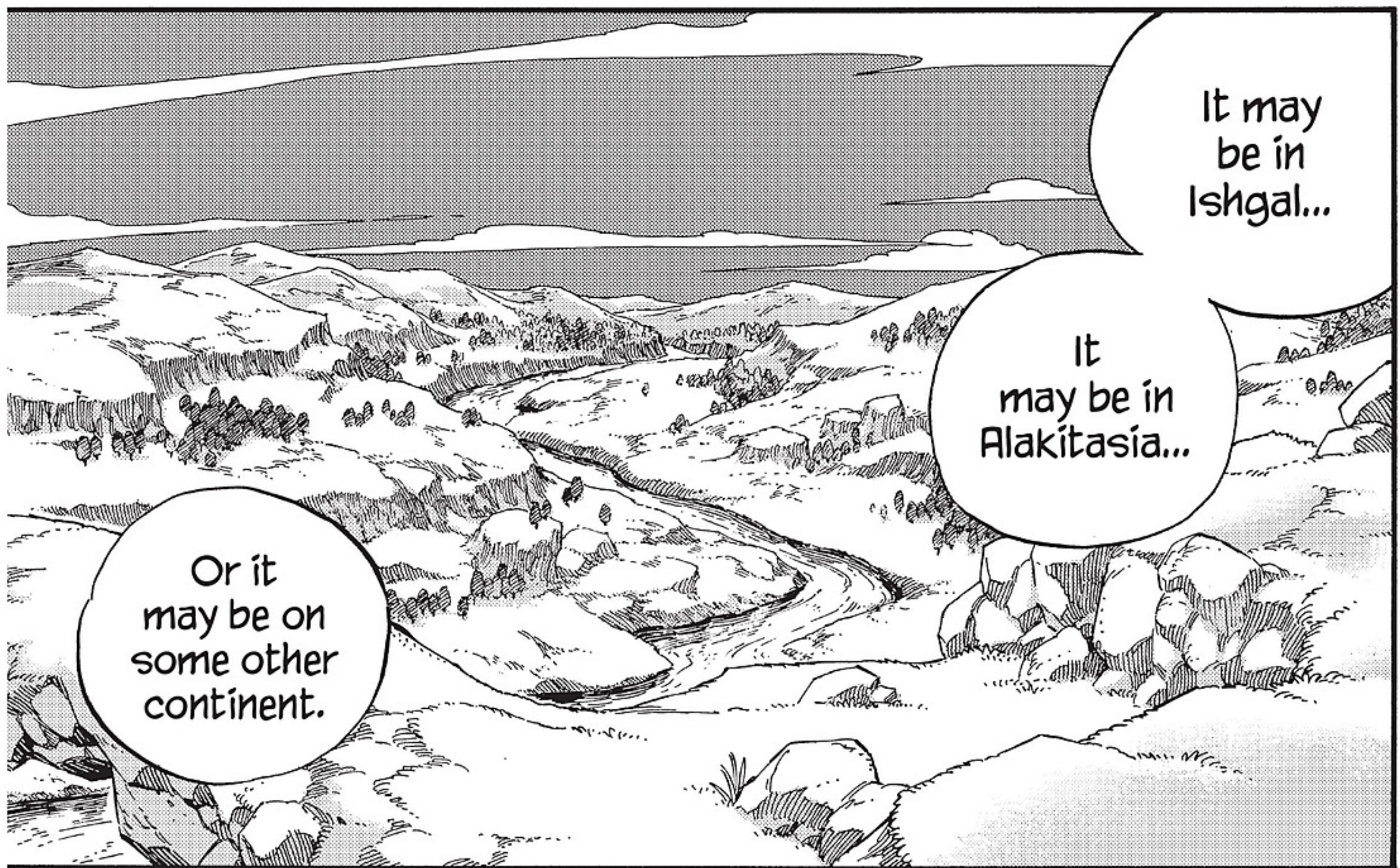
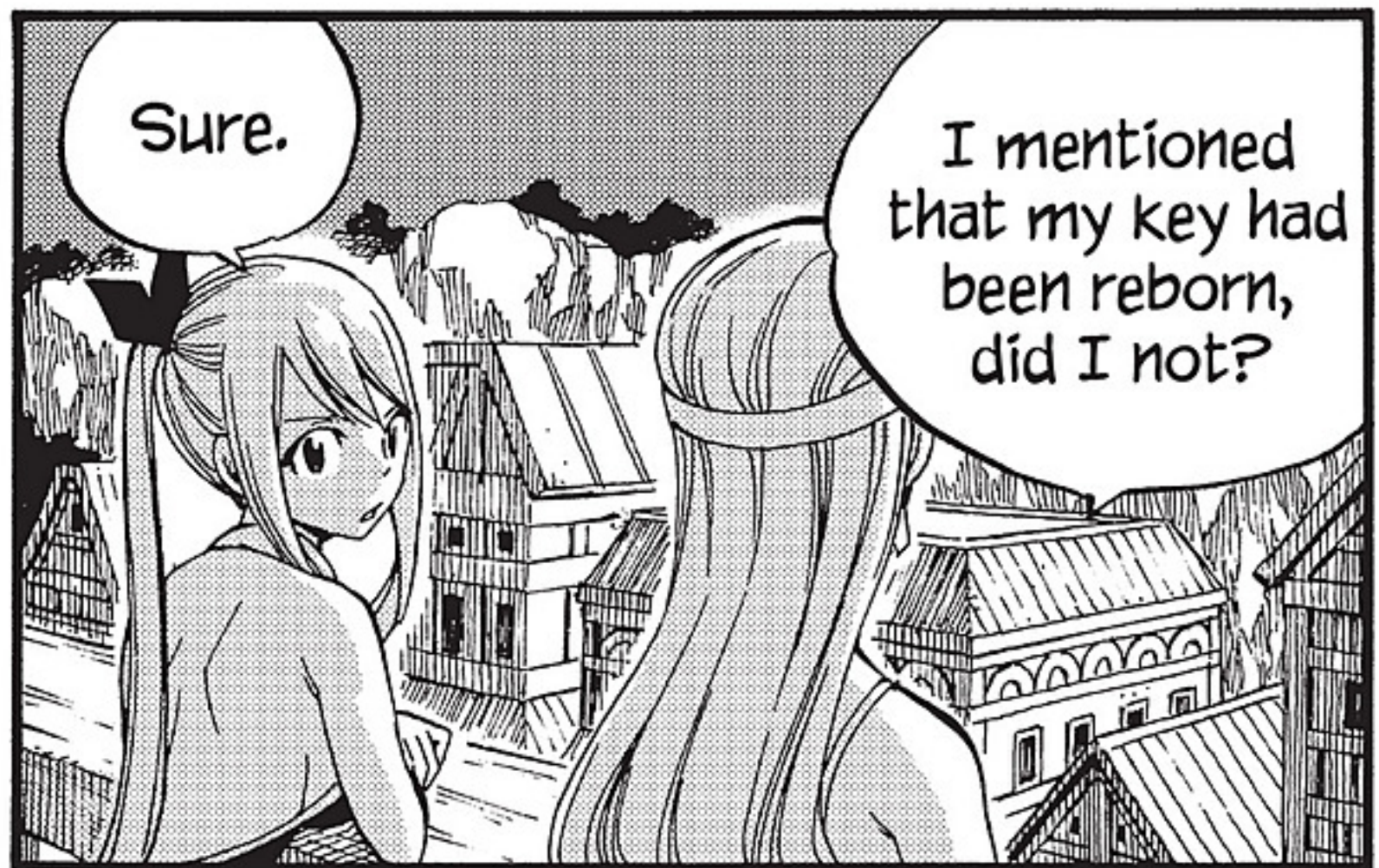
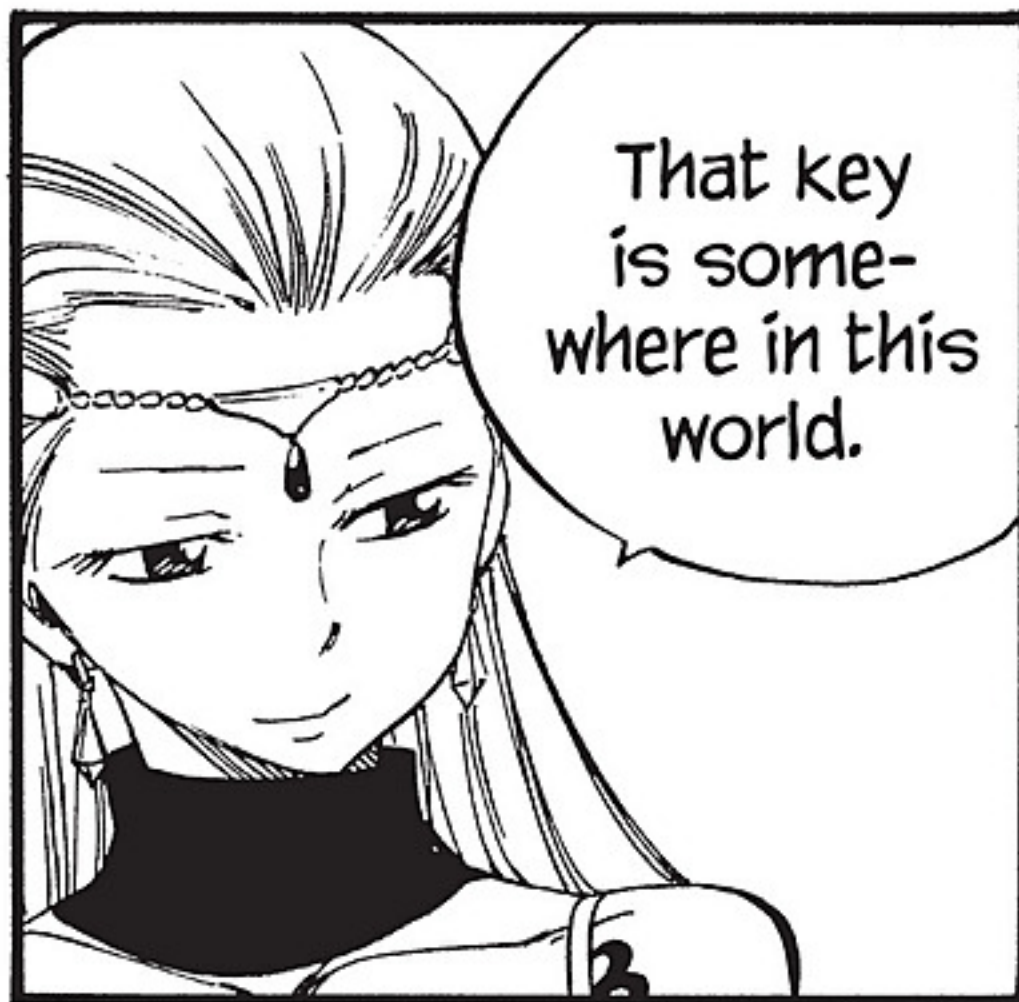
















**After  
all, you're  
one of my  
best friends  
!!!!**

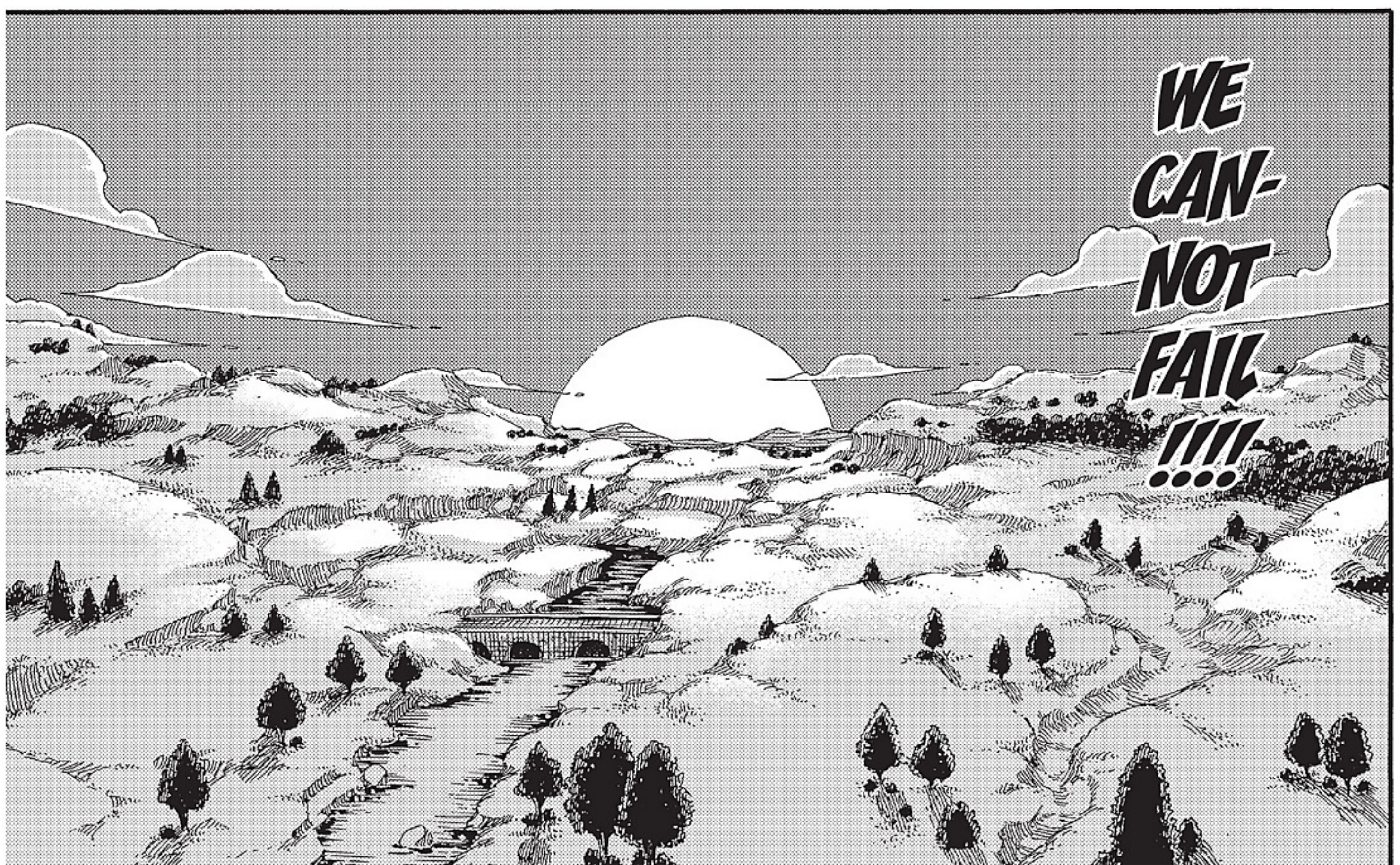
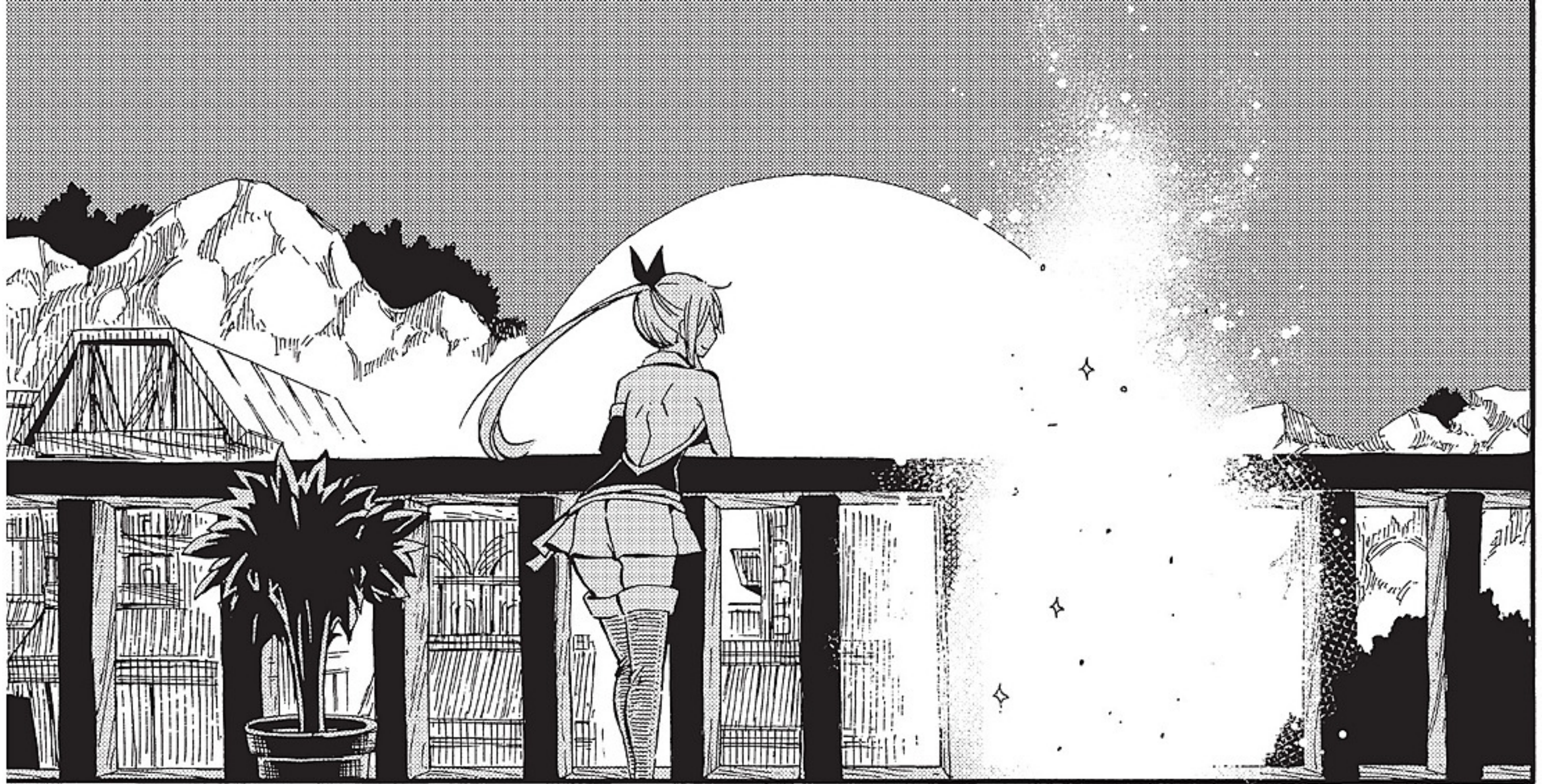
**Still, I'm  
gonna  
find you  
!!!!**



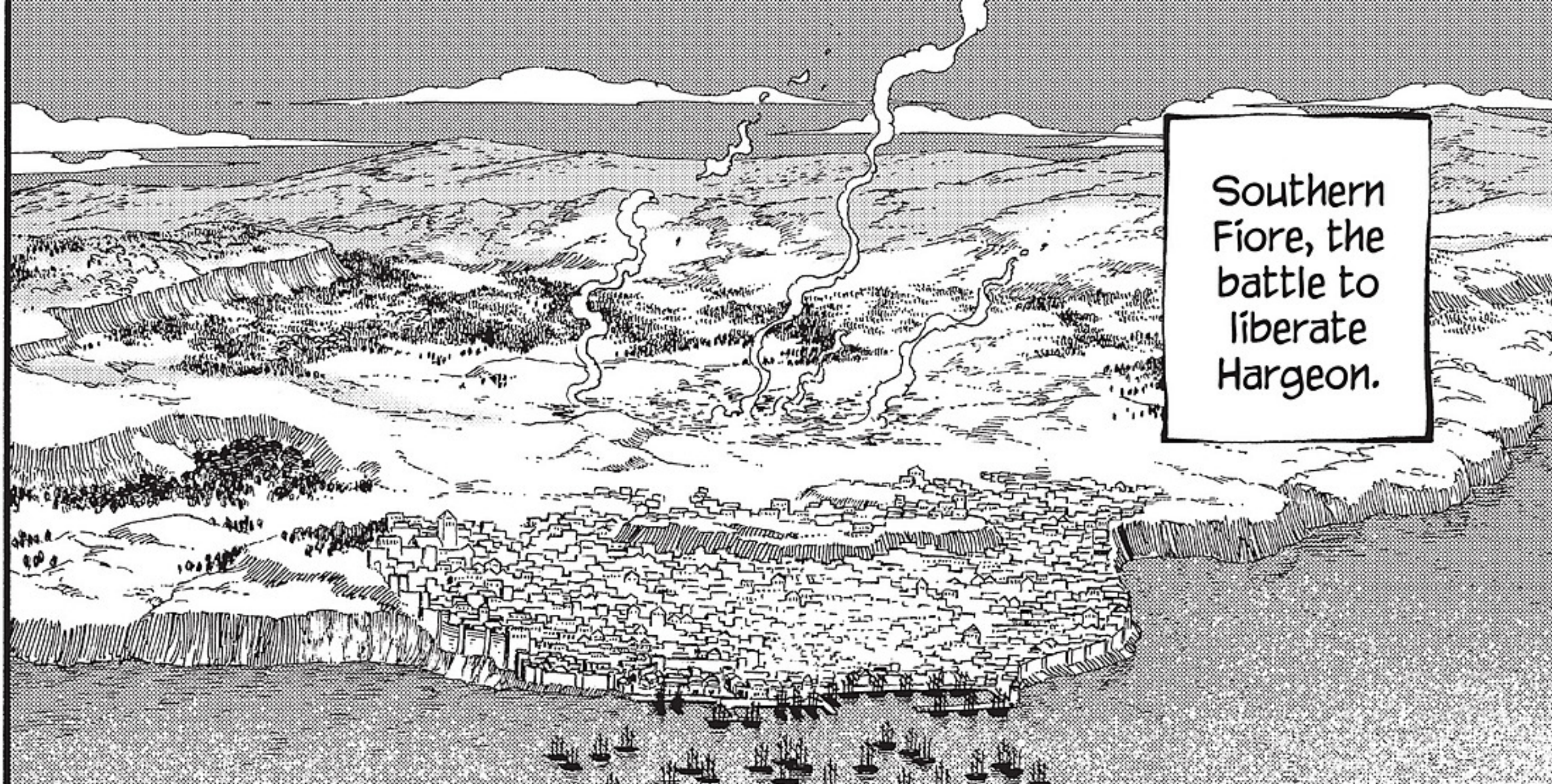
Thank  
you. I look  
forward to  
that day.



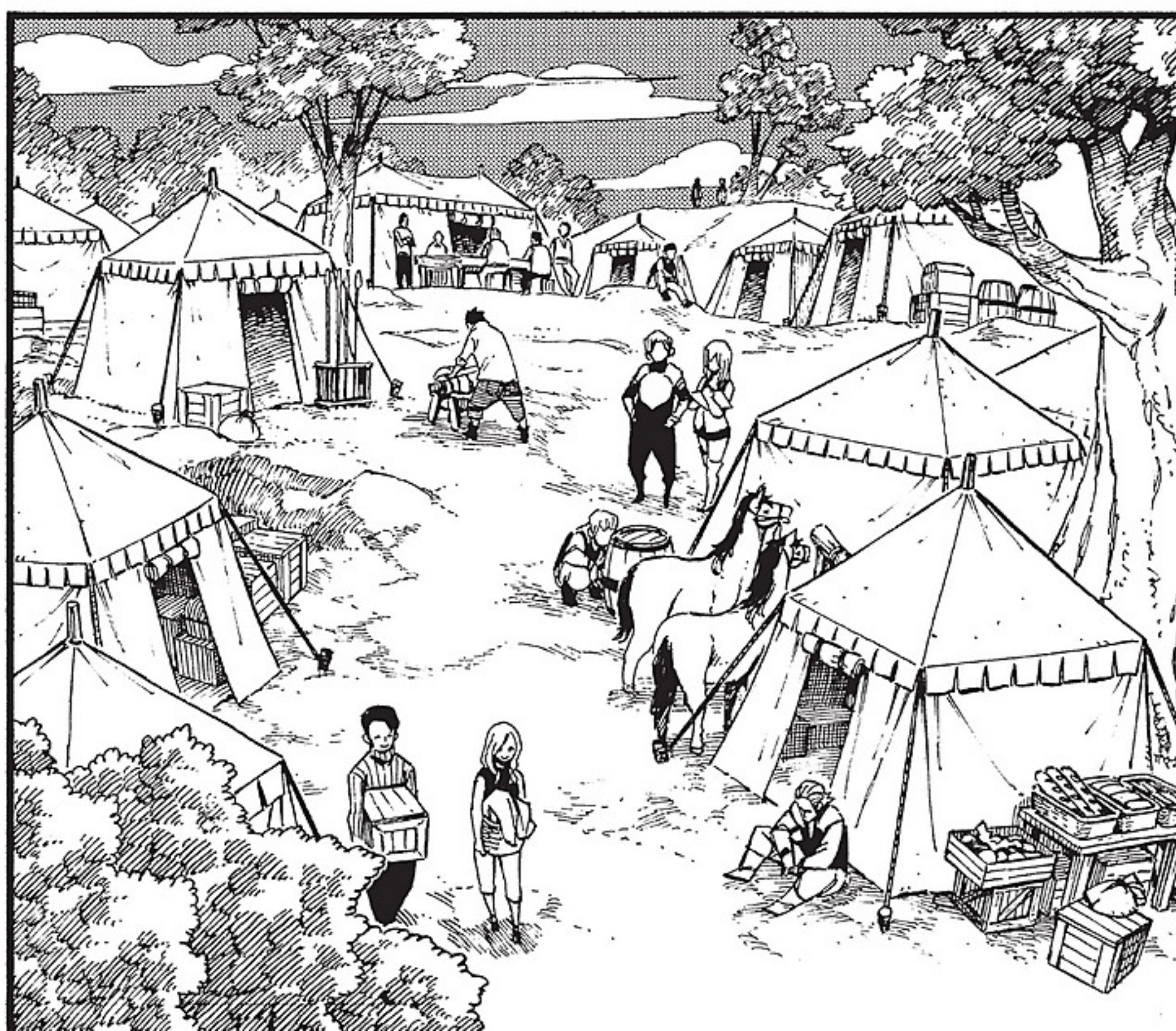
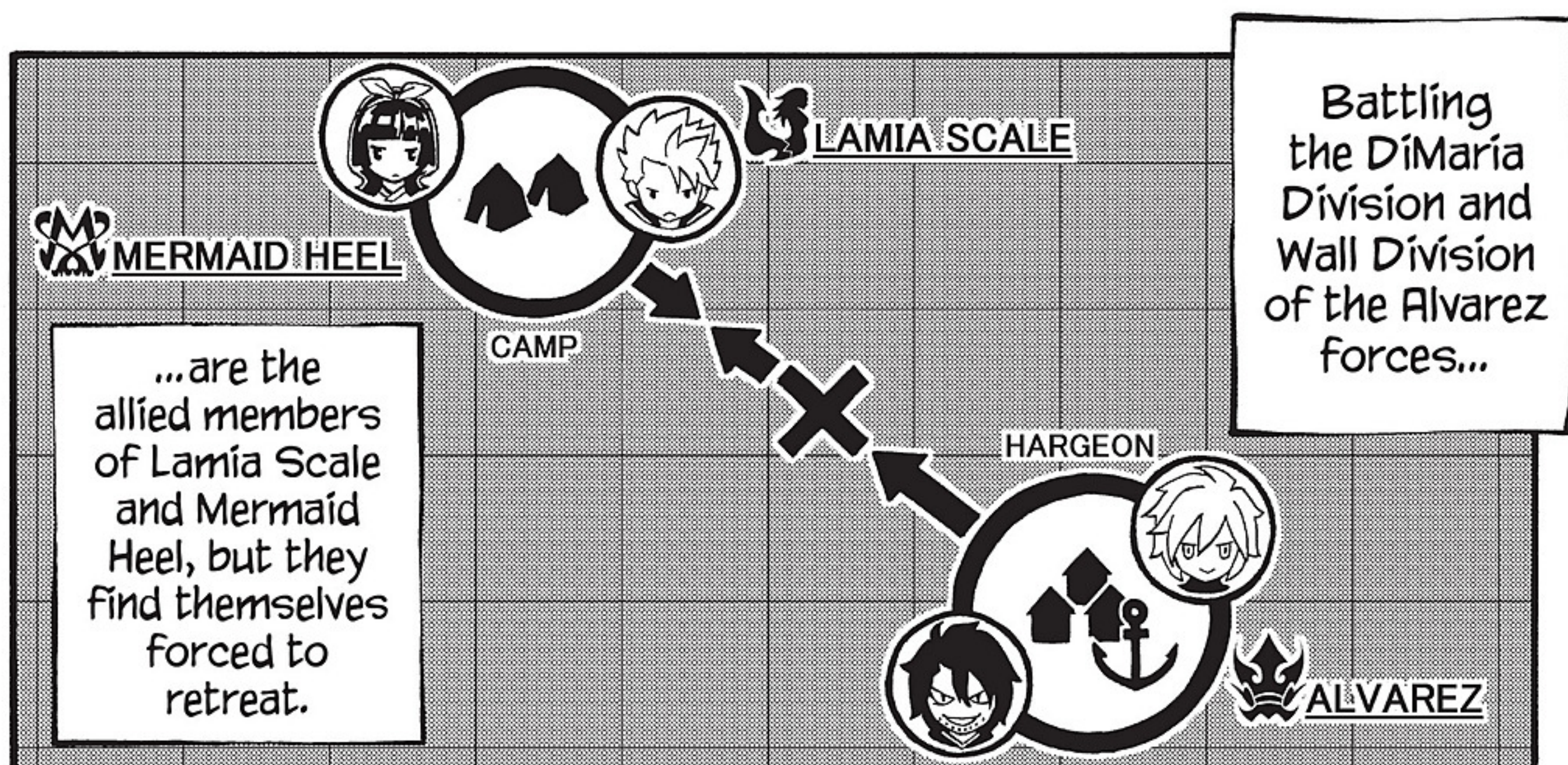




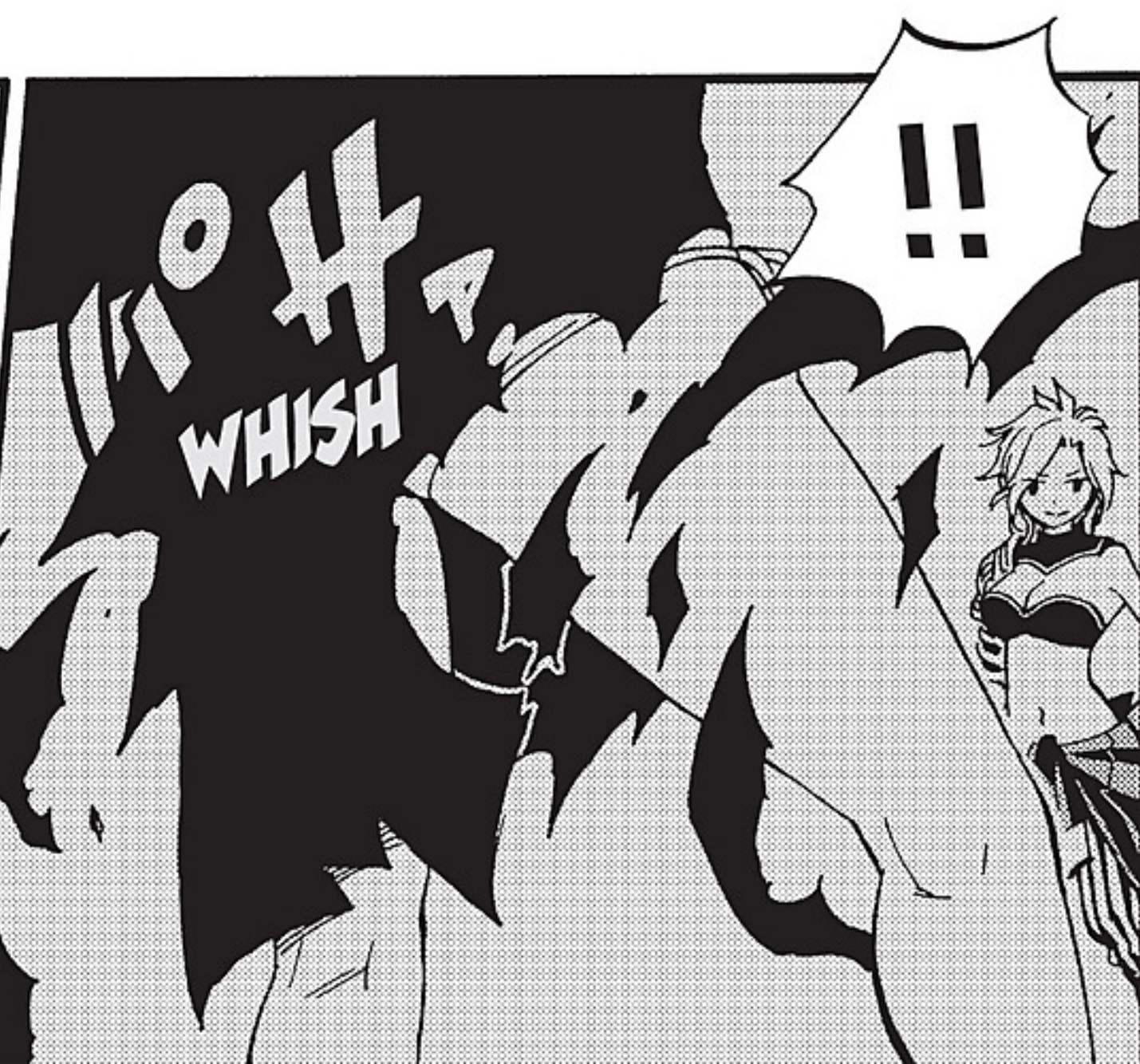
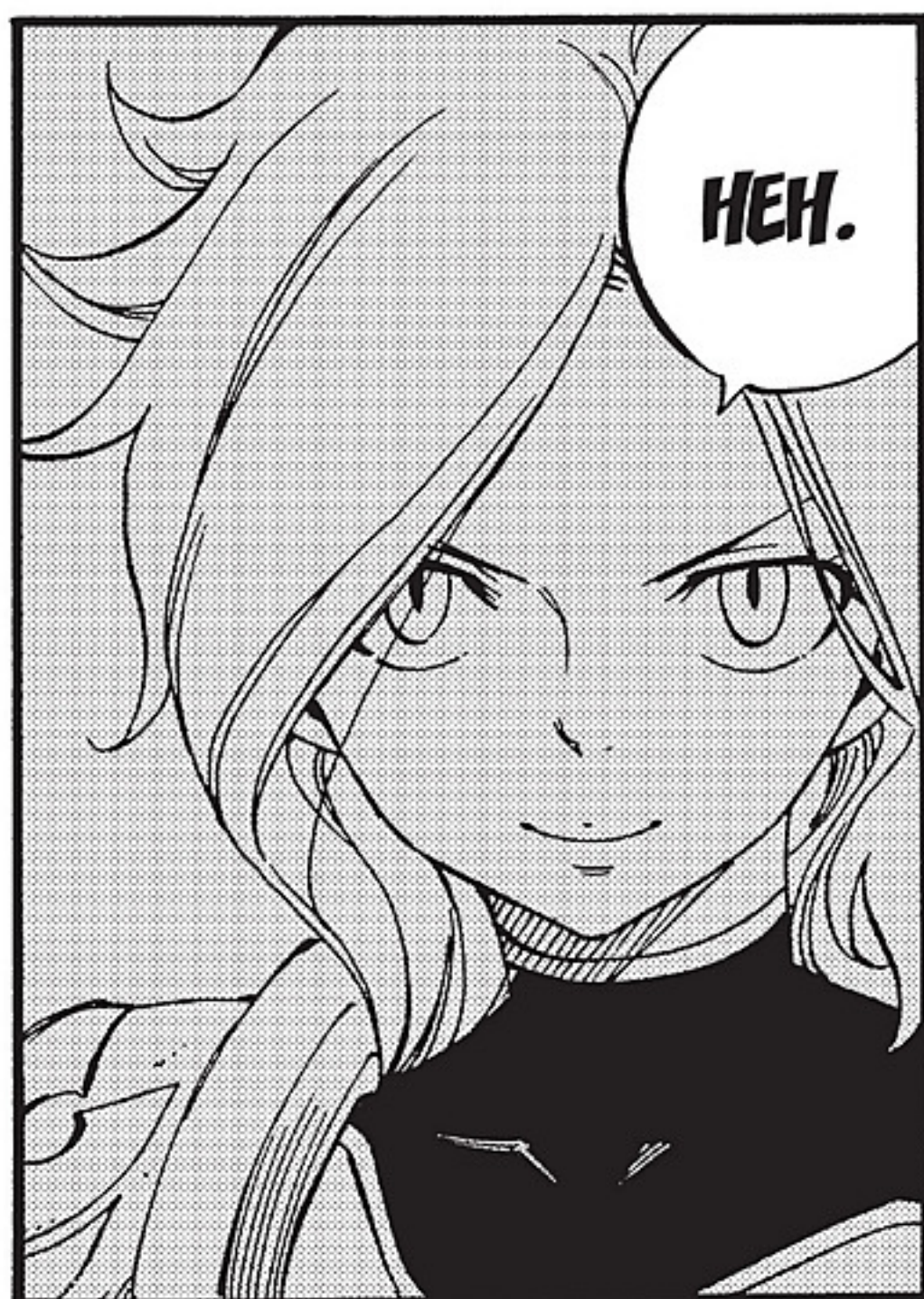
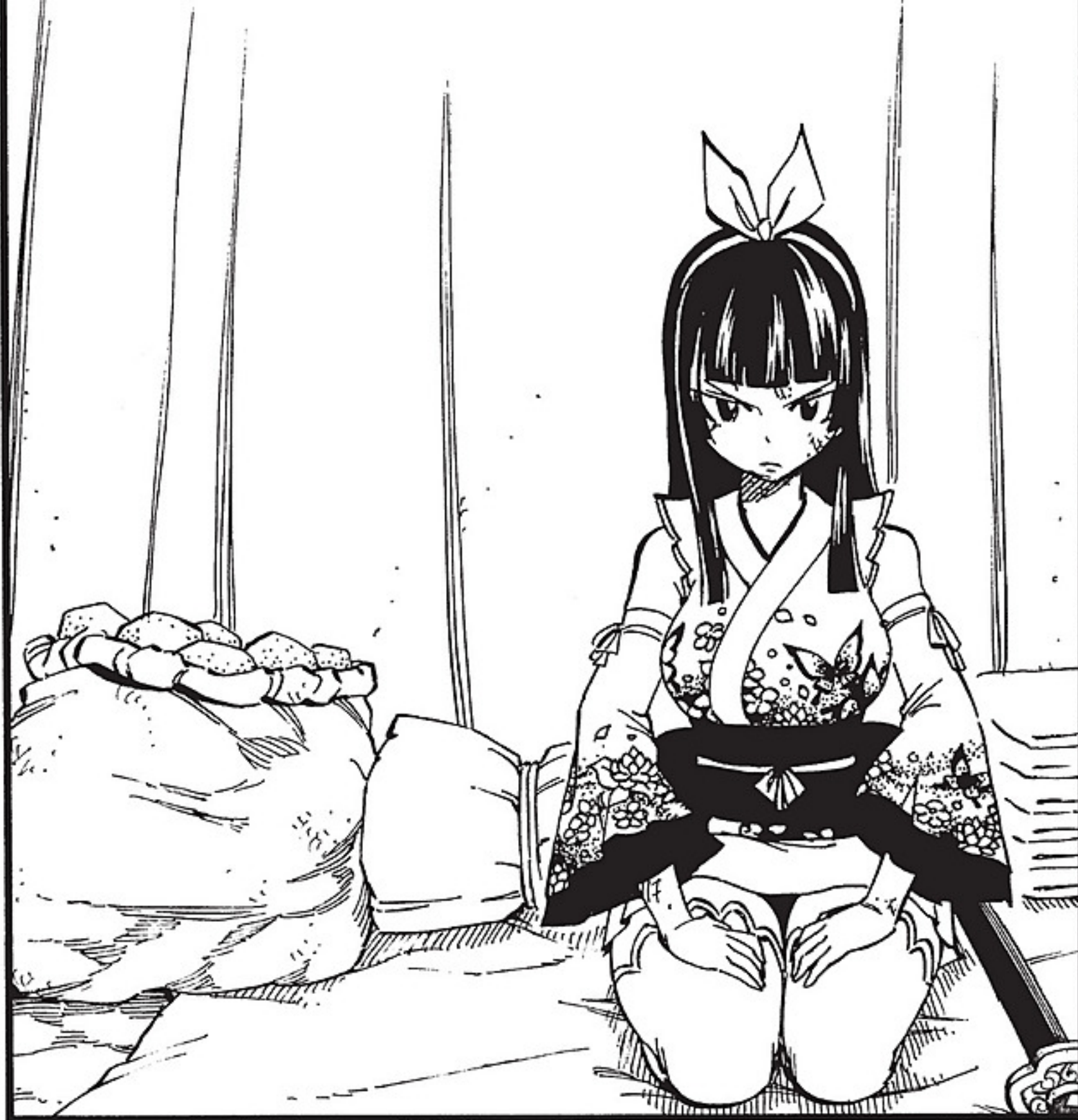




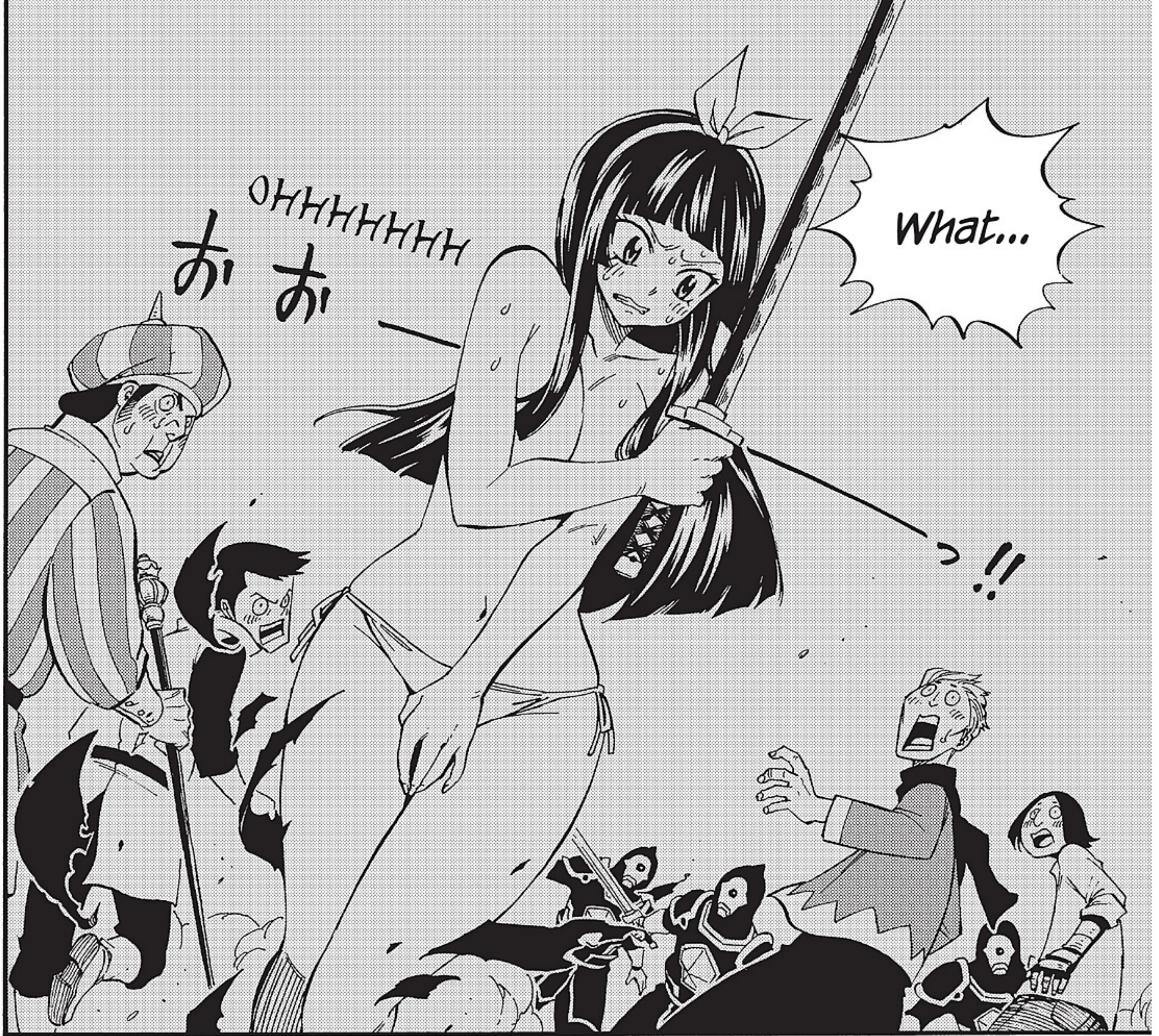
Southern  
Fiore, the  
battle to  
liberate  
Hargeon.



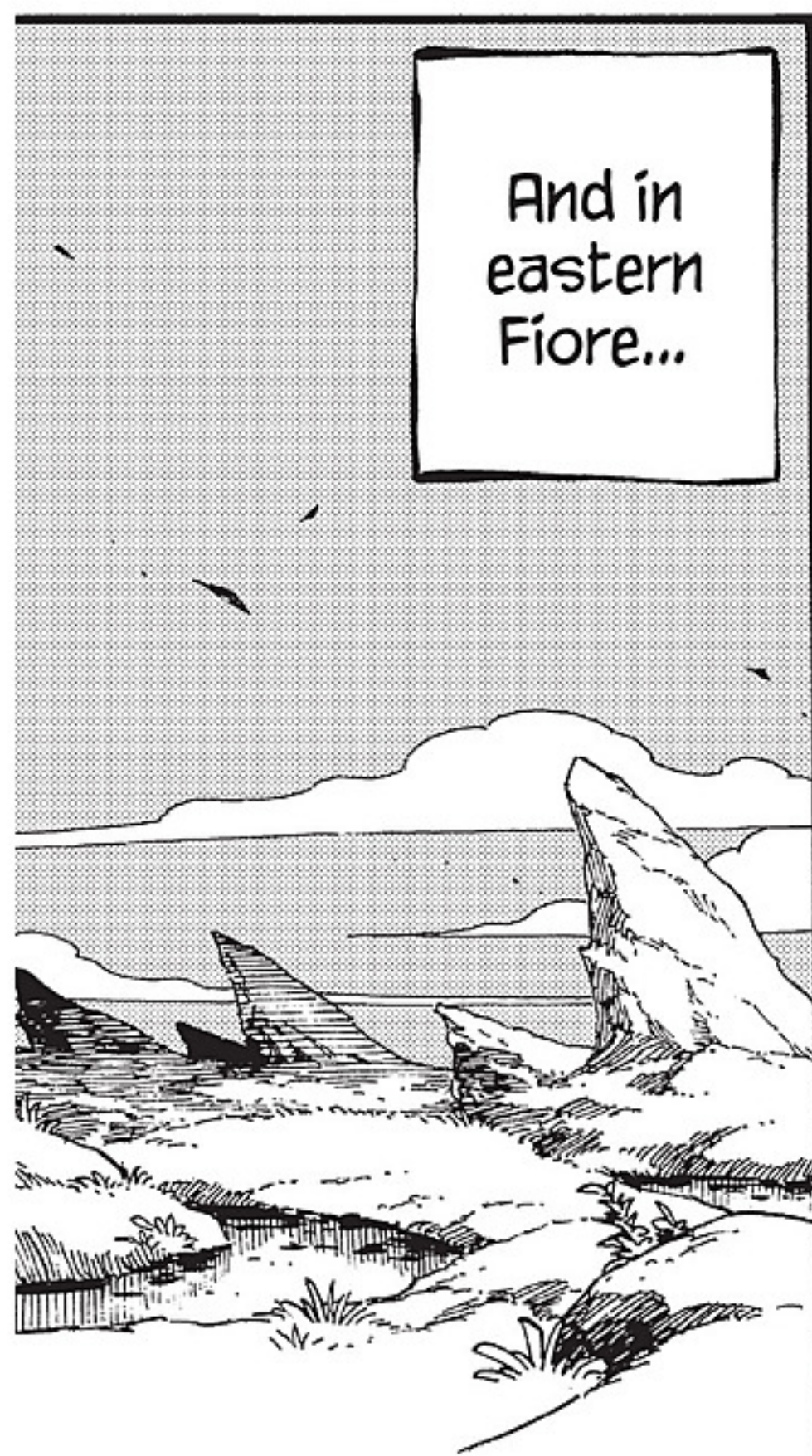
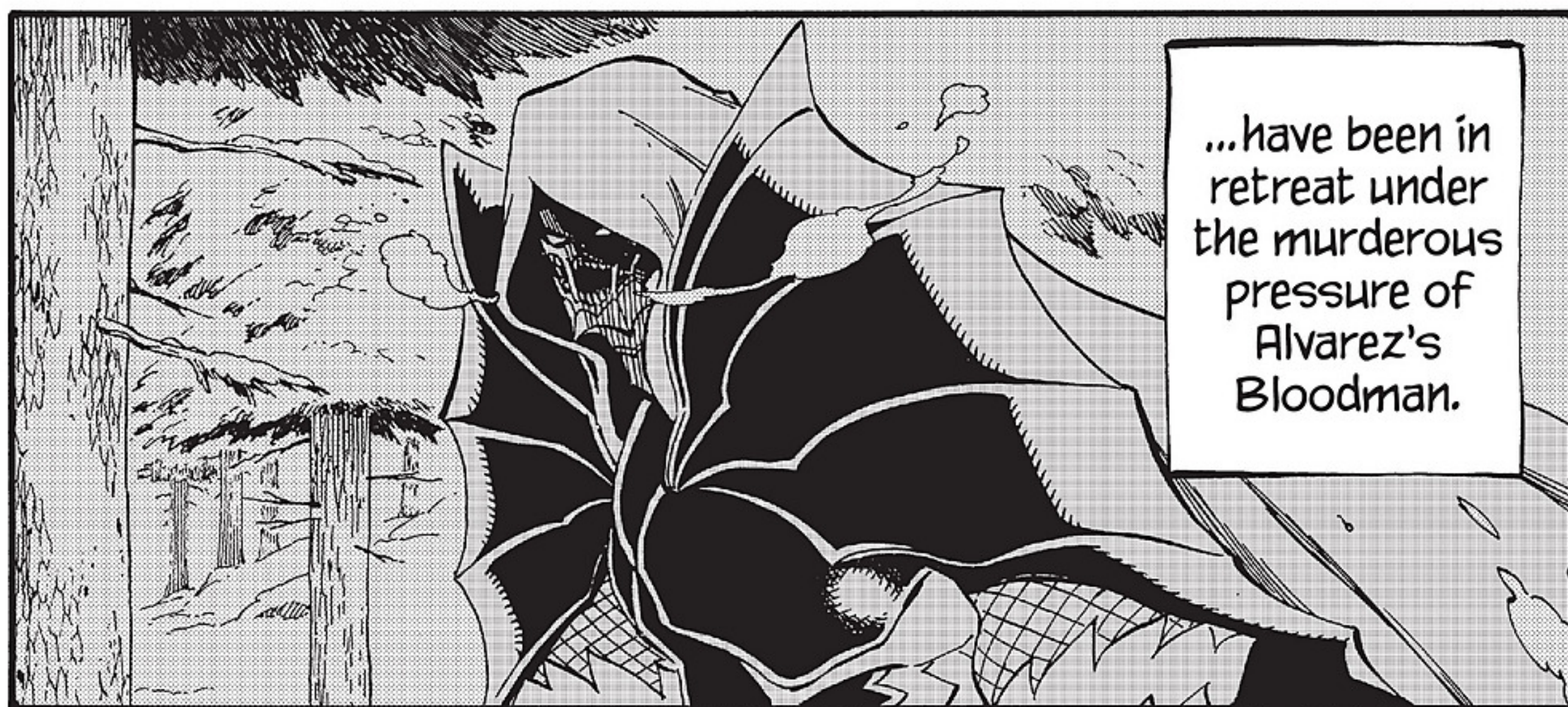
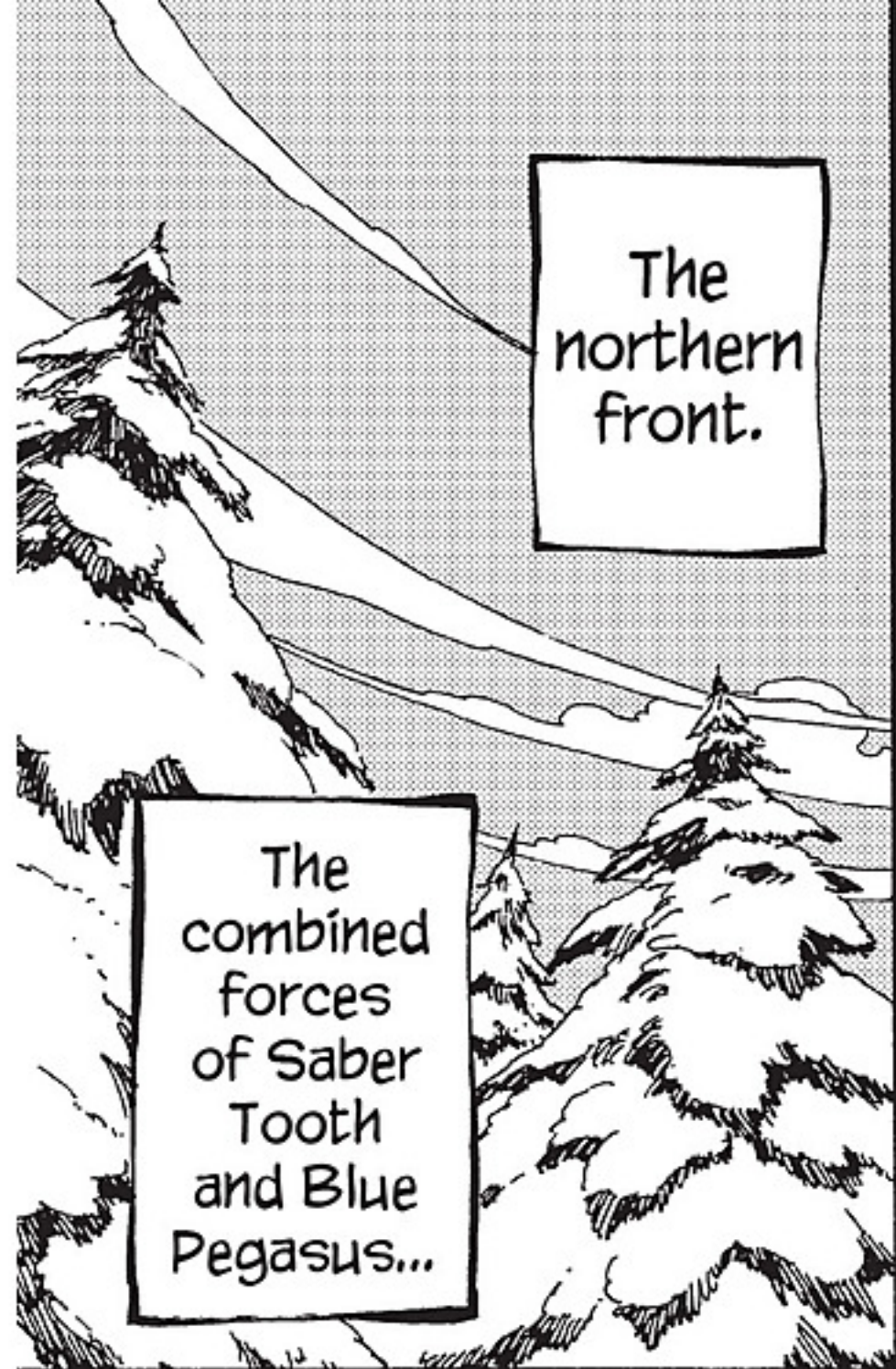








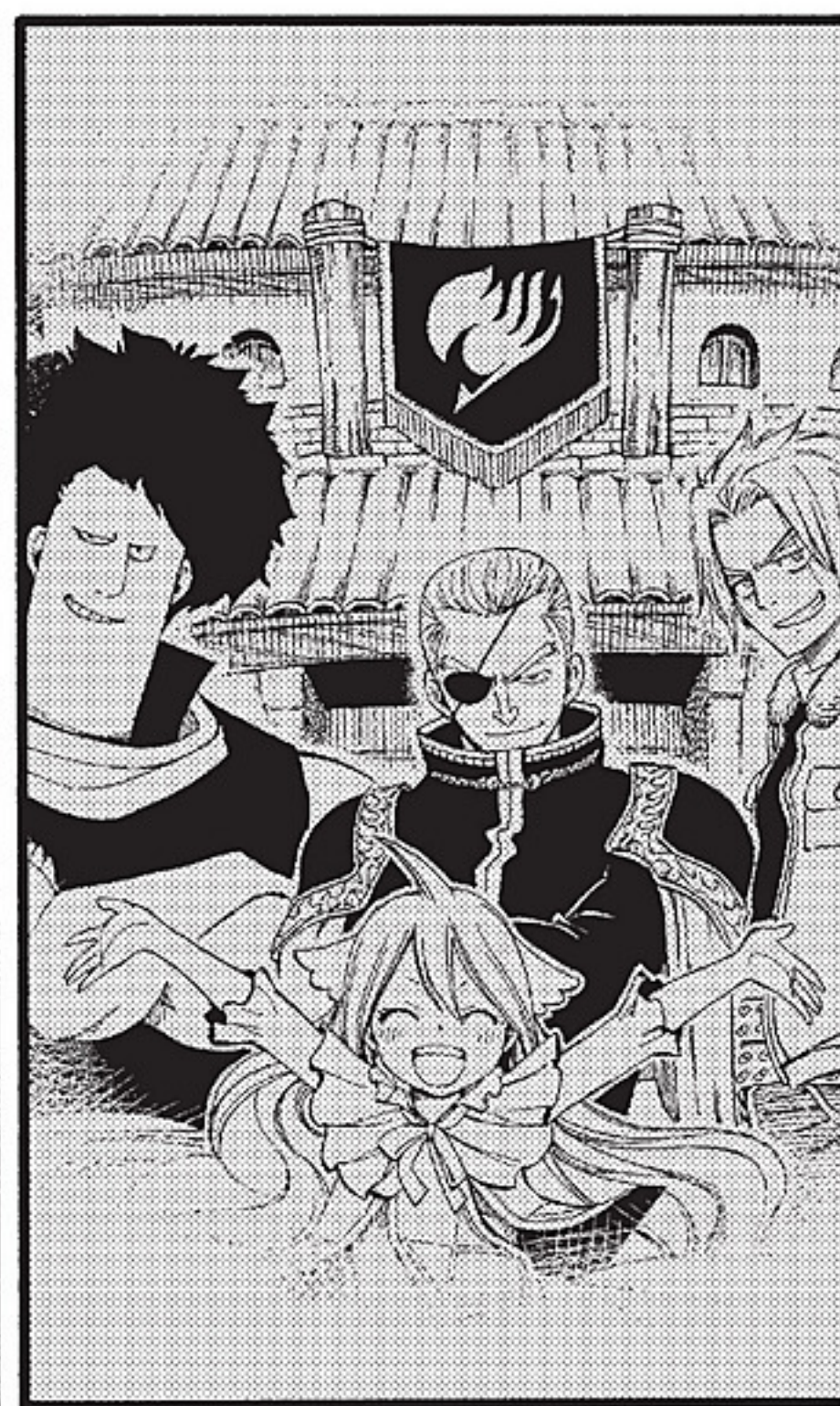
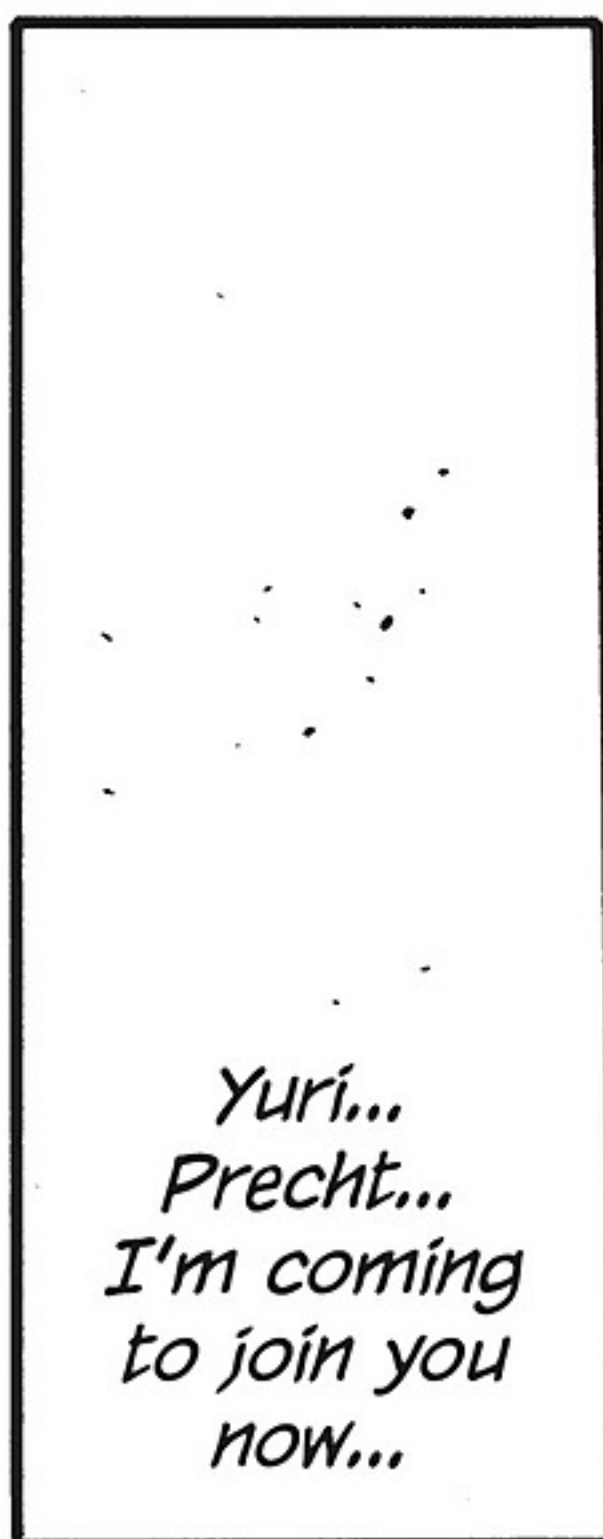










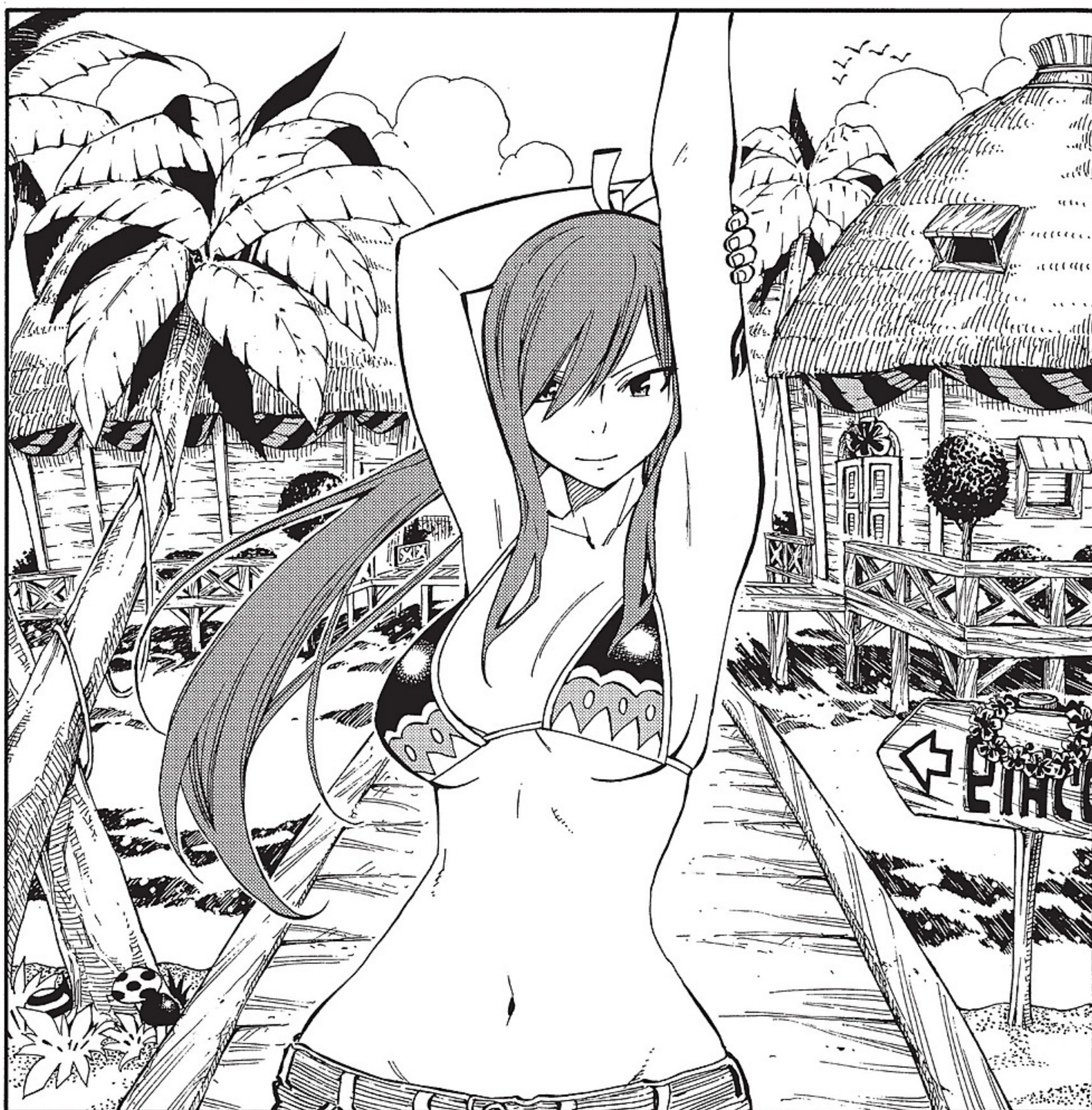




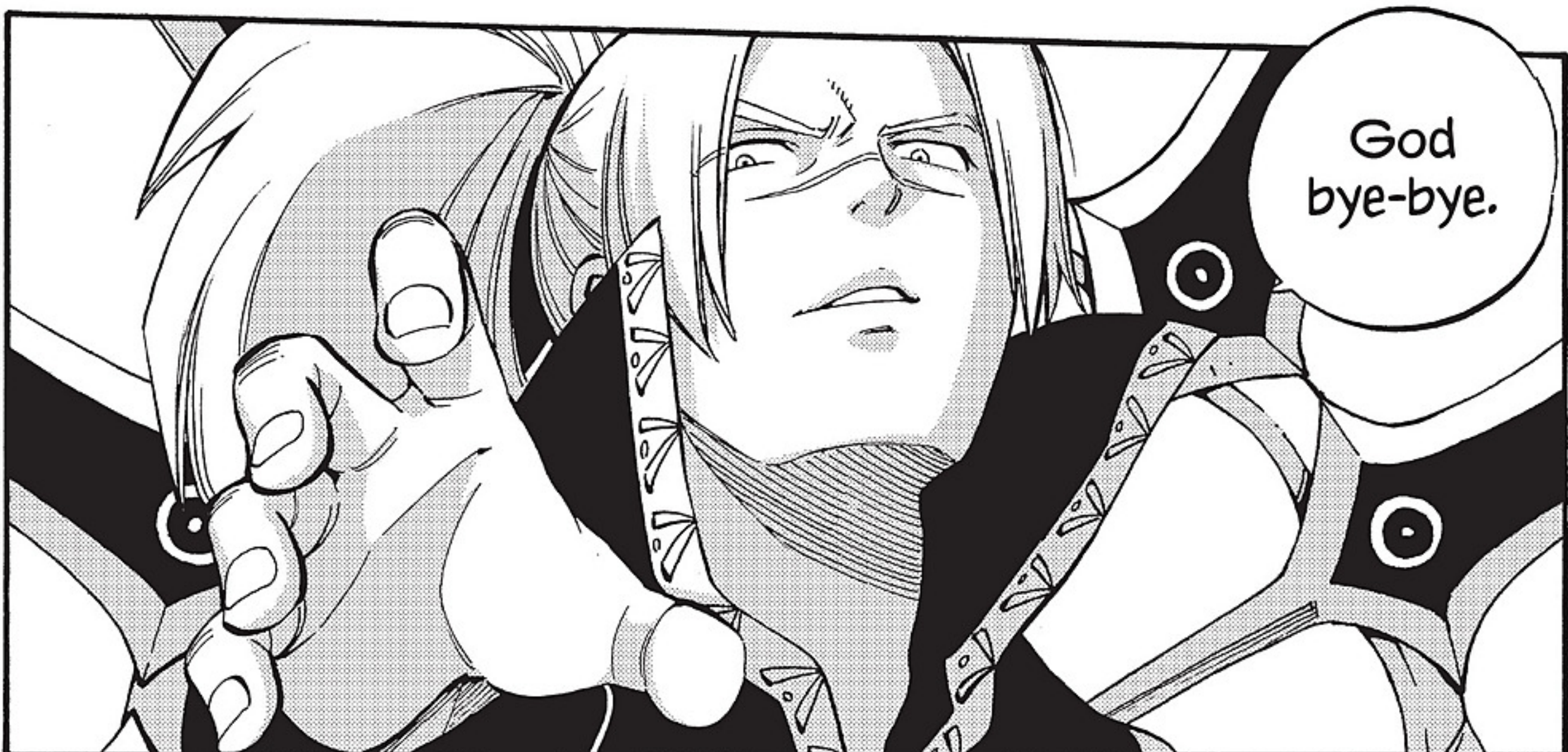
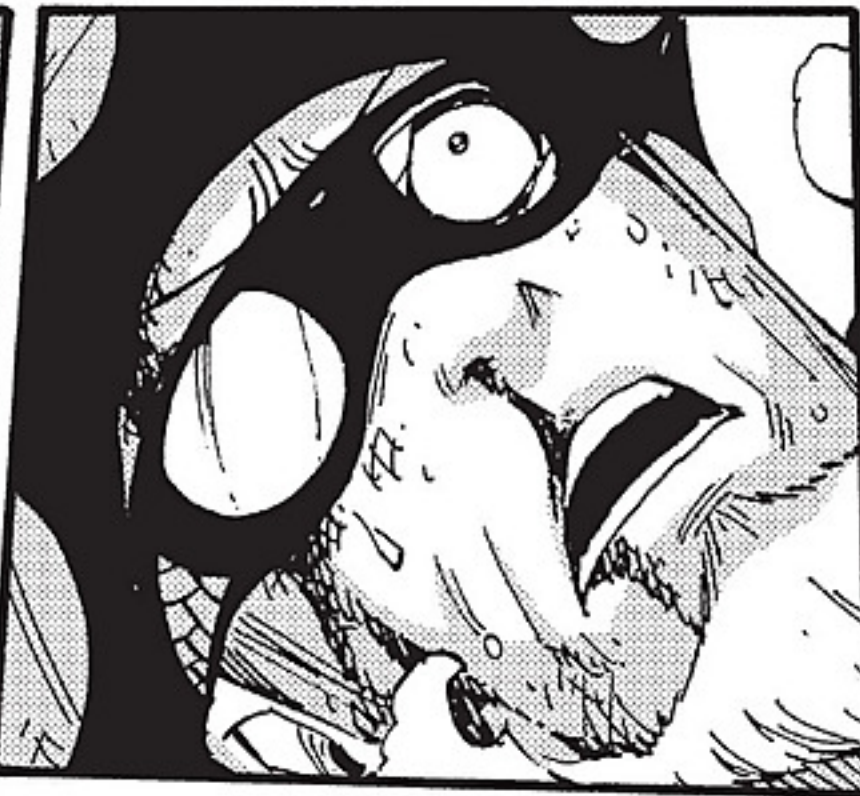
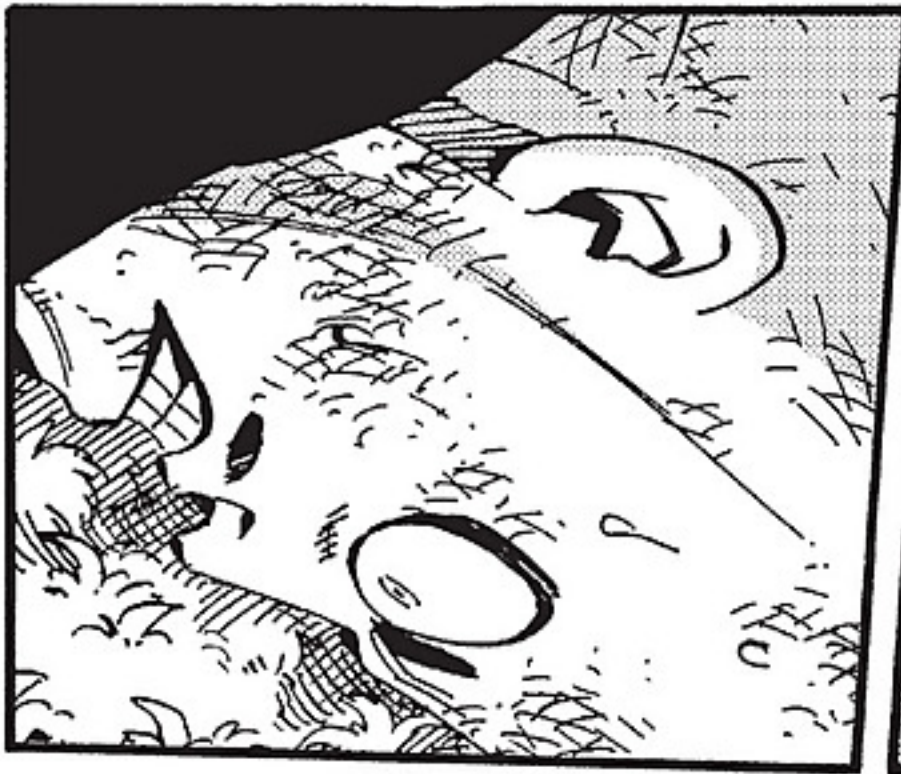
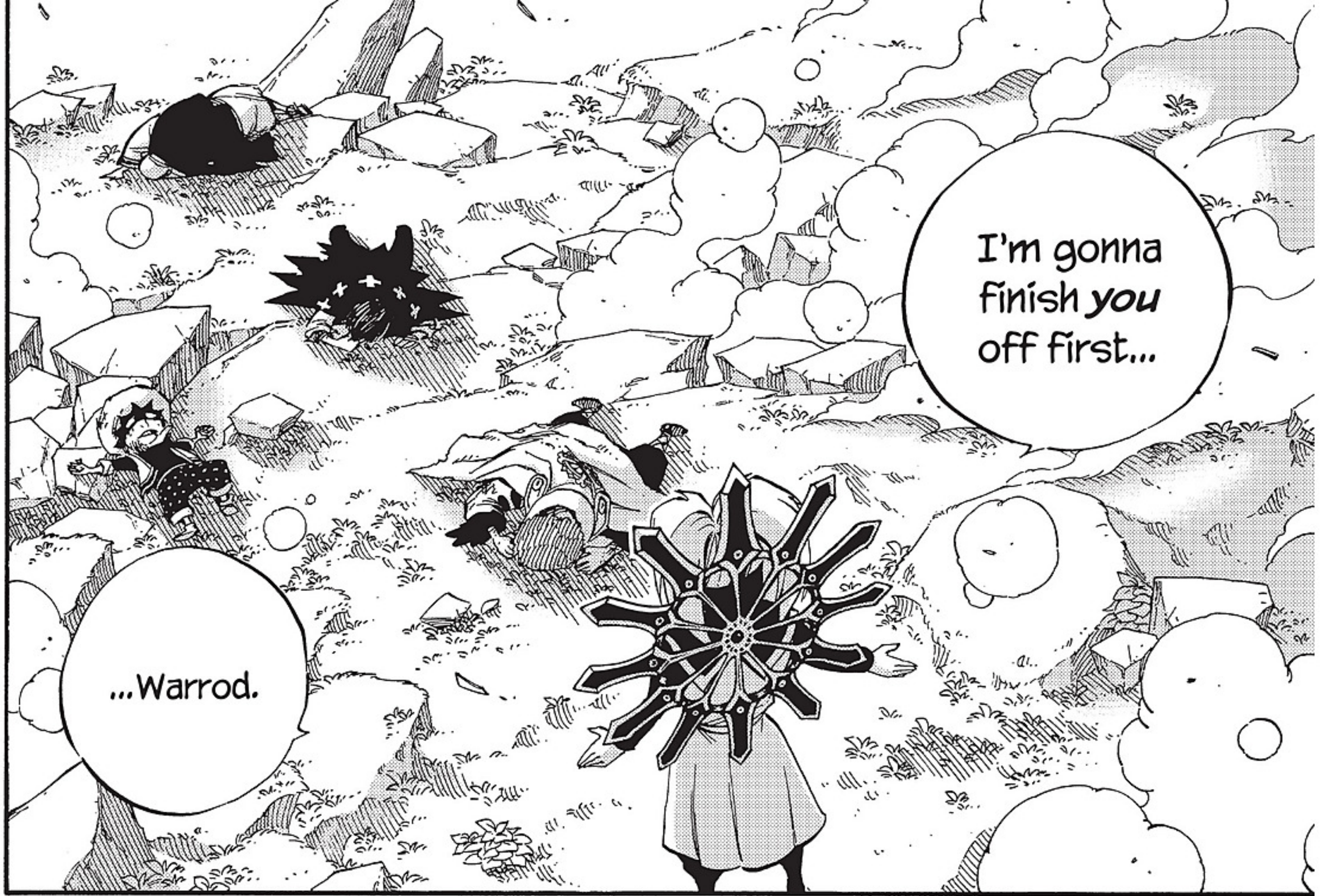
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

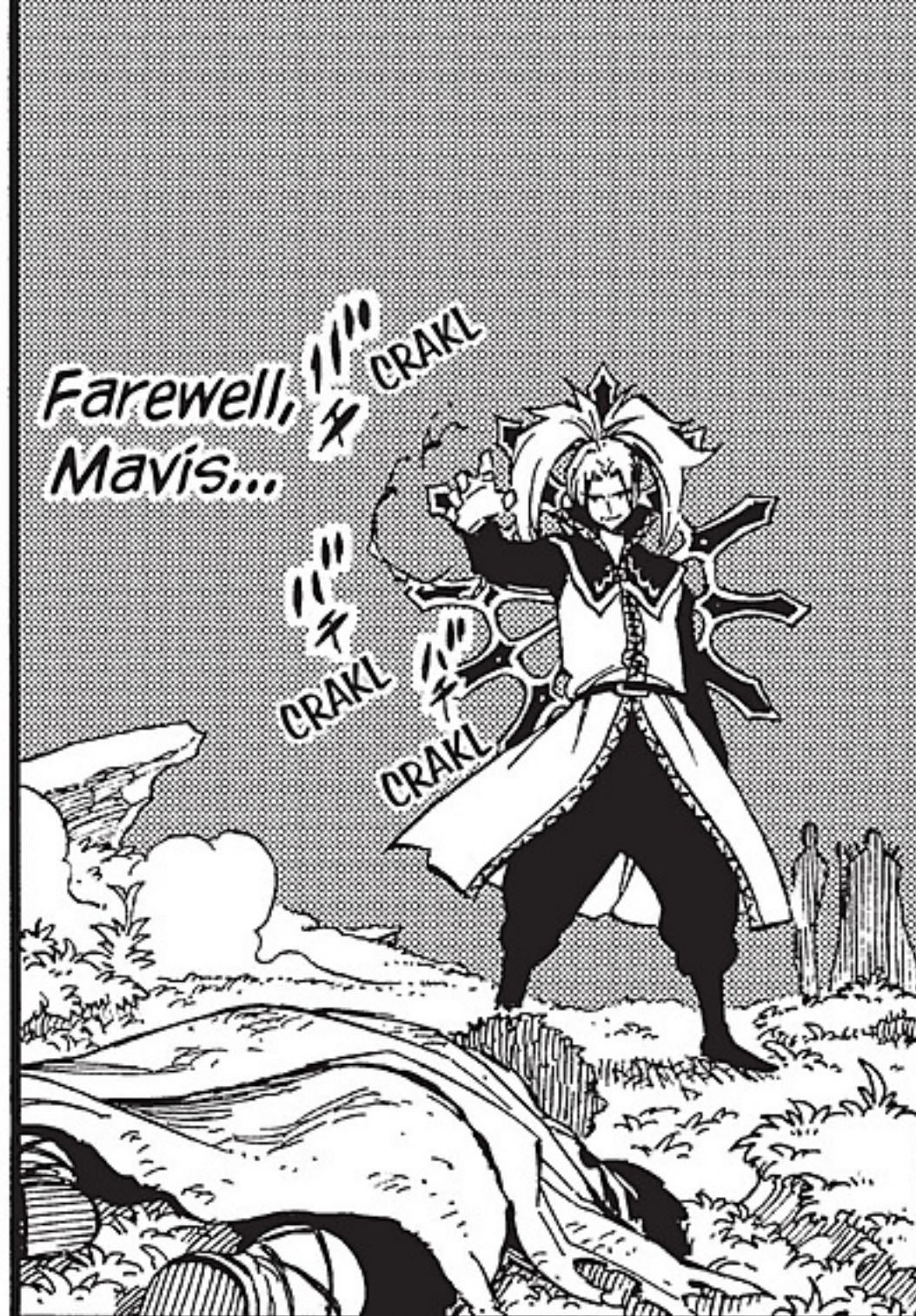
## Chapter 470: Hybrid Theory



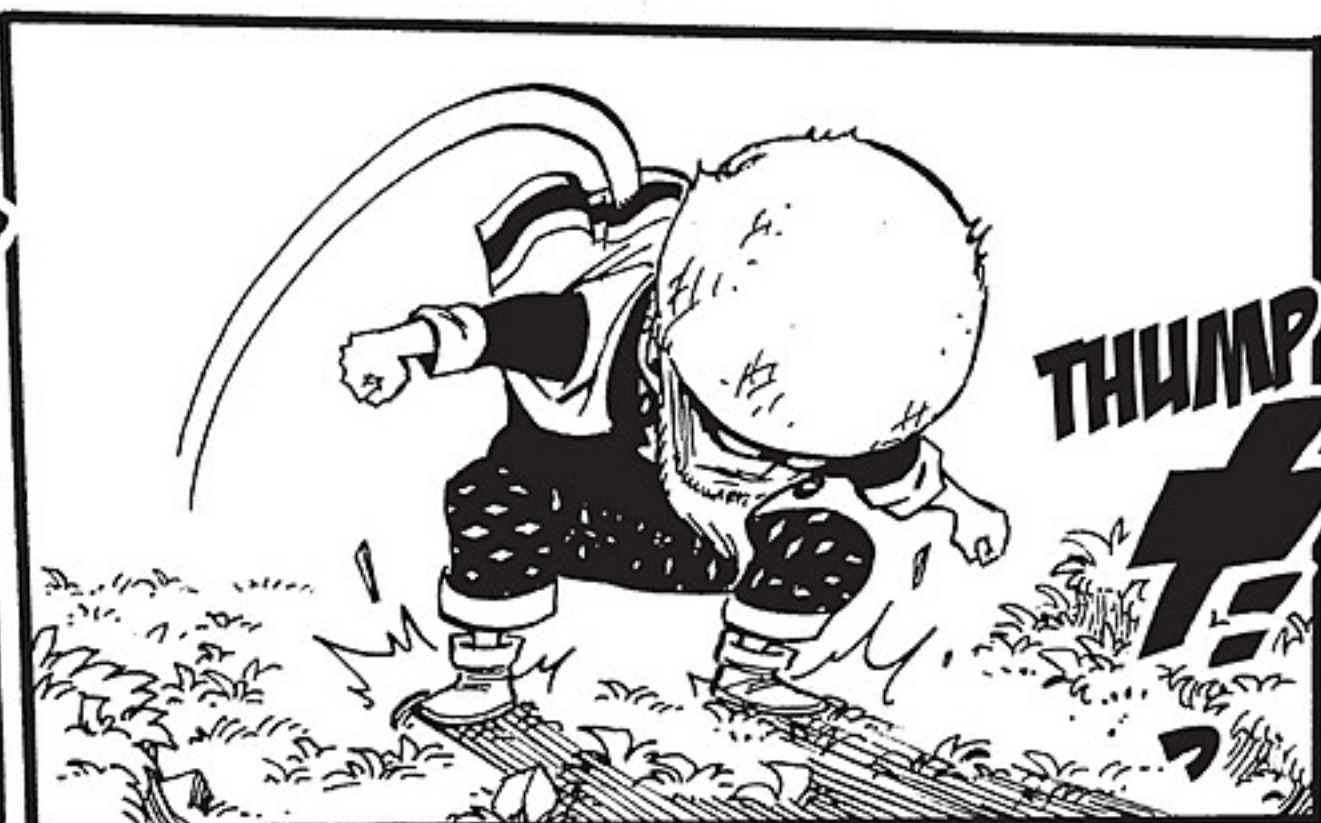
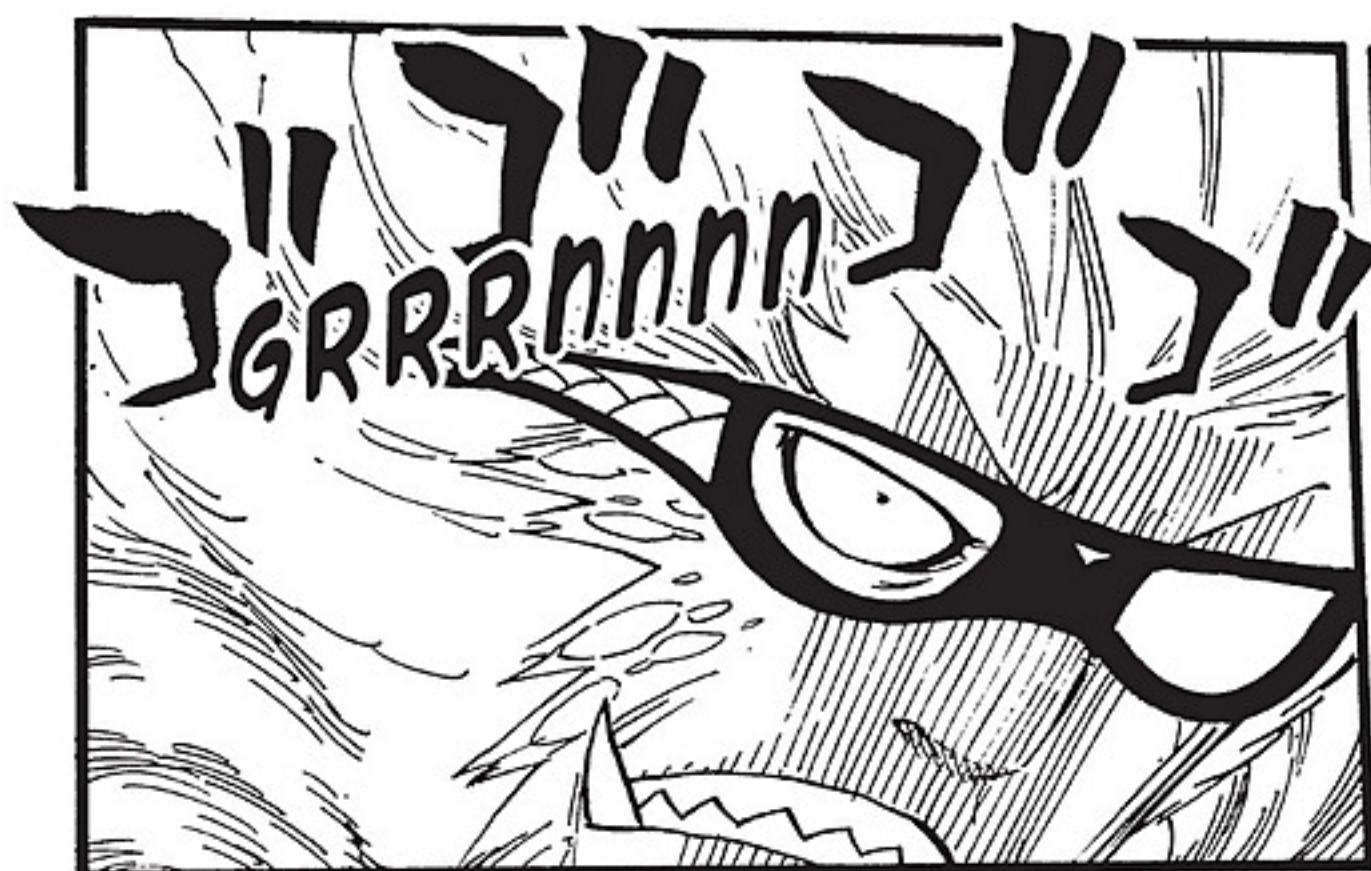








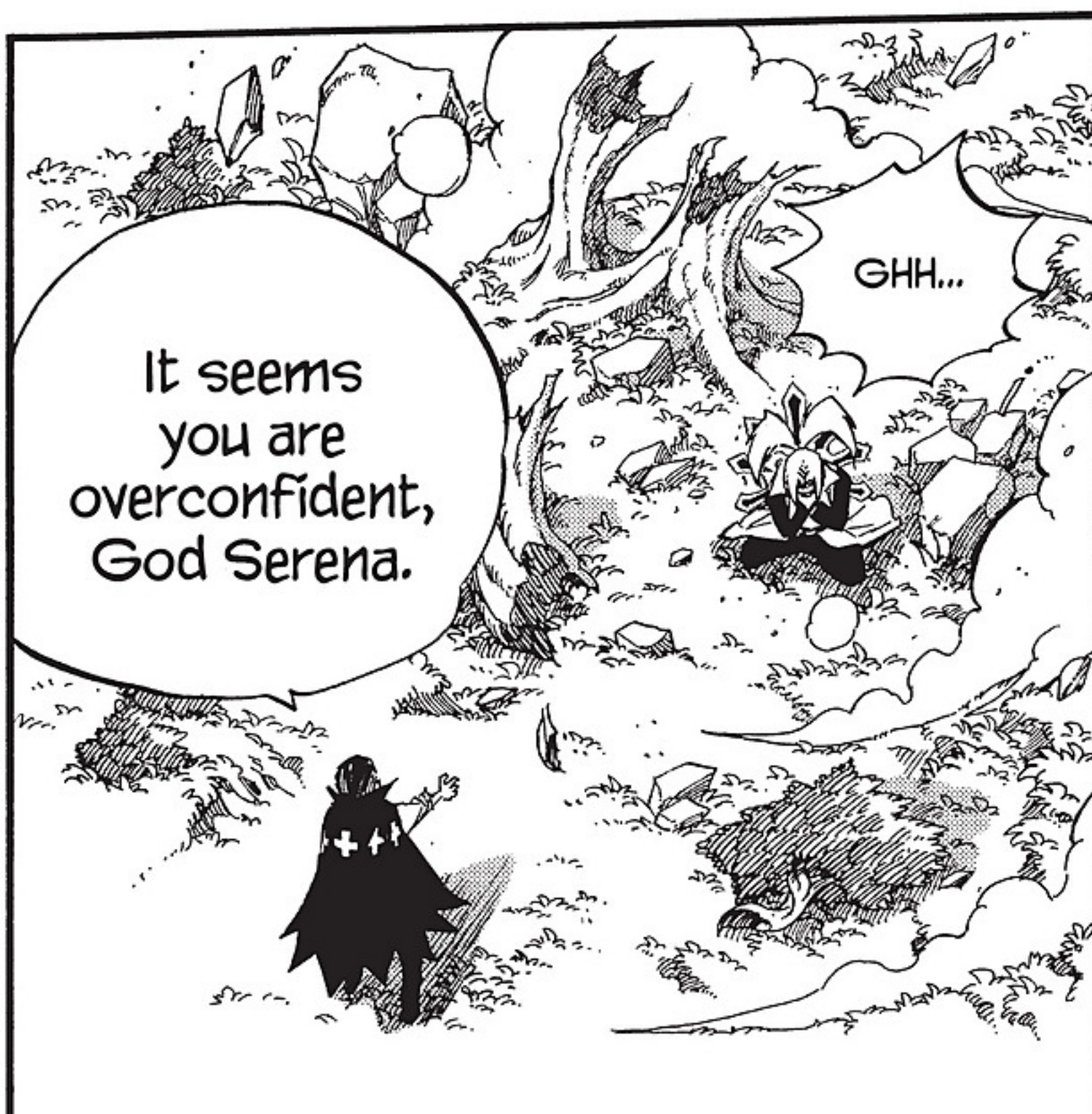
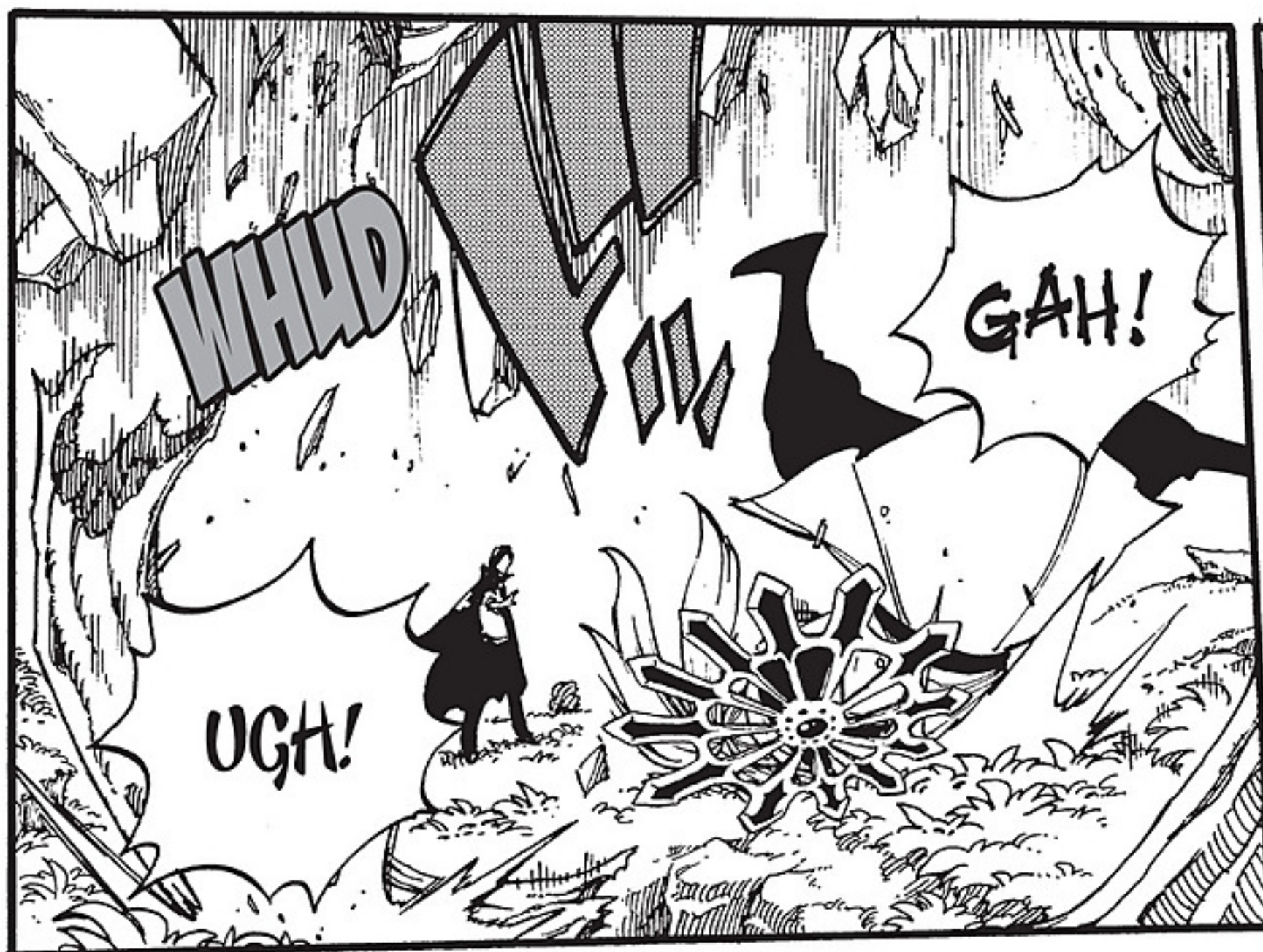
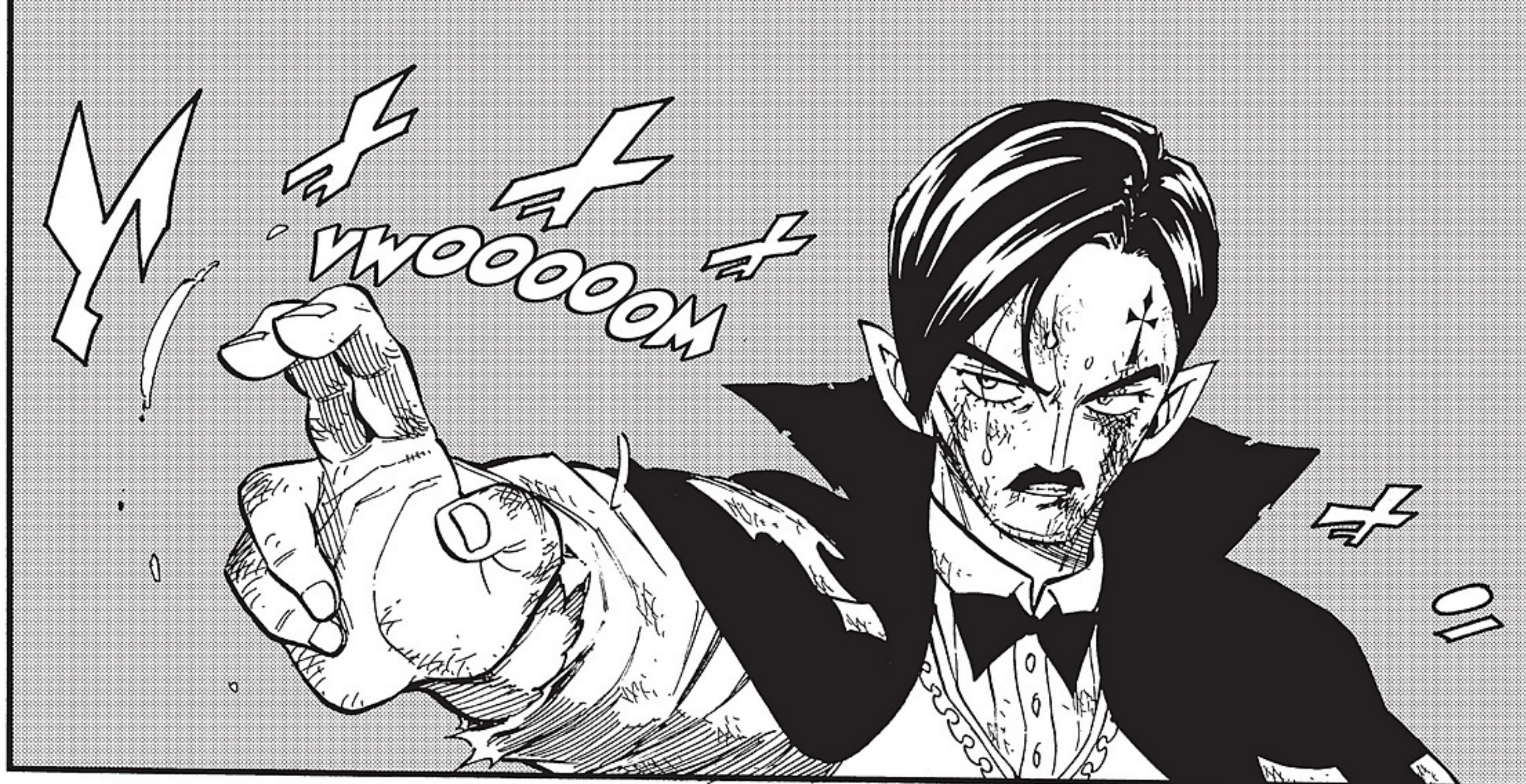




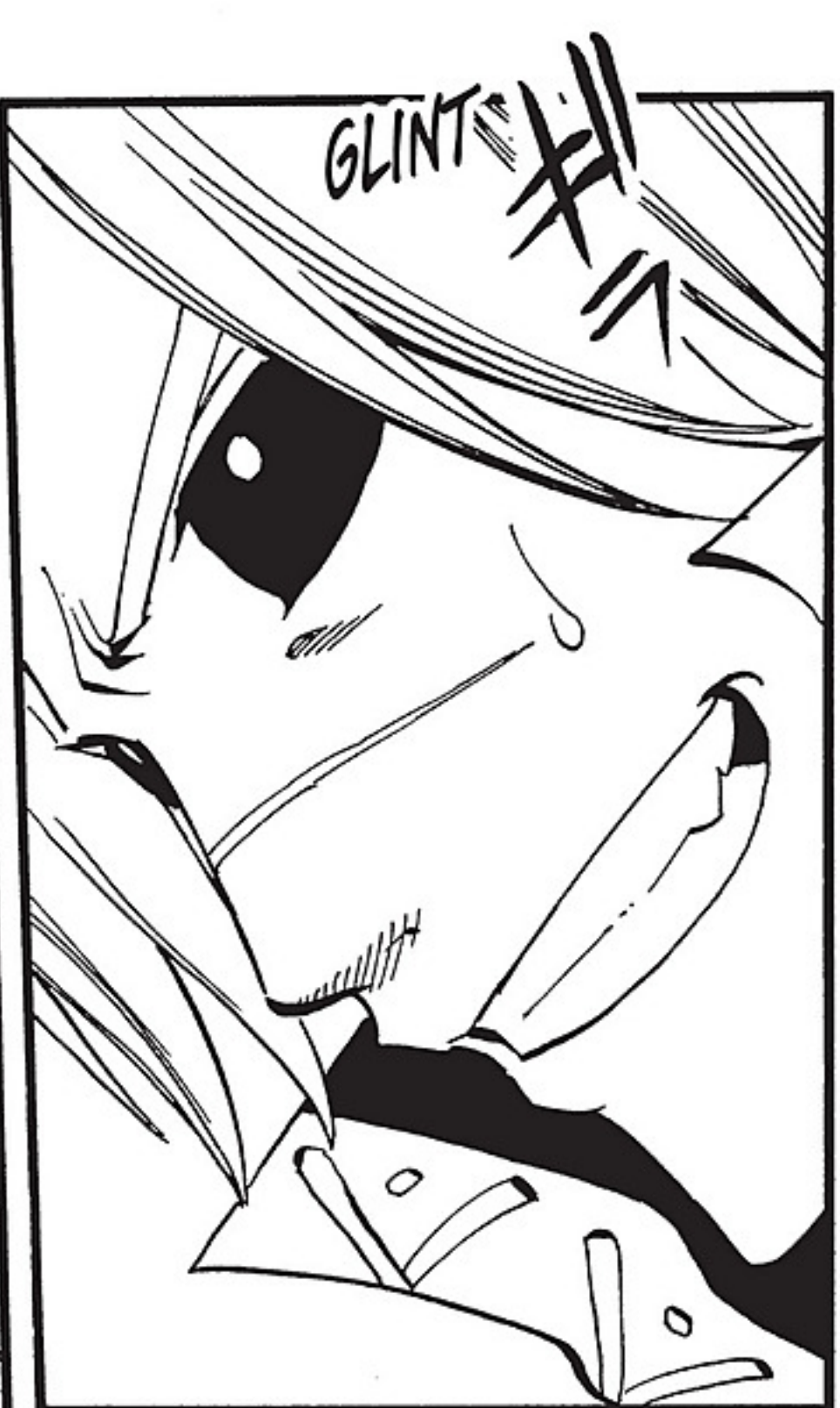
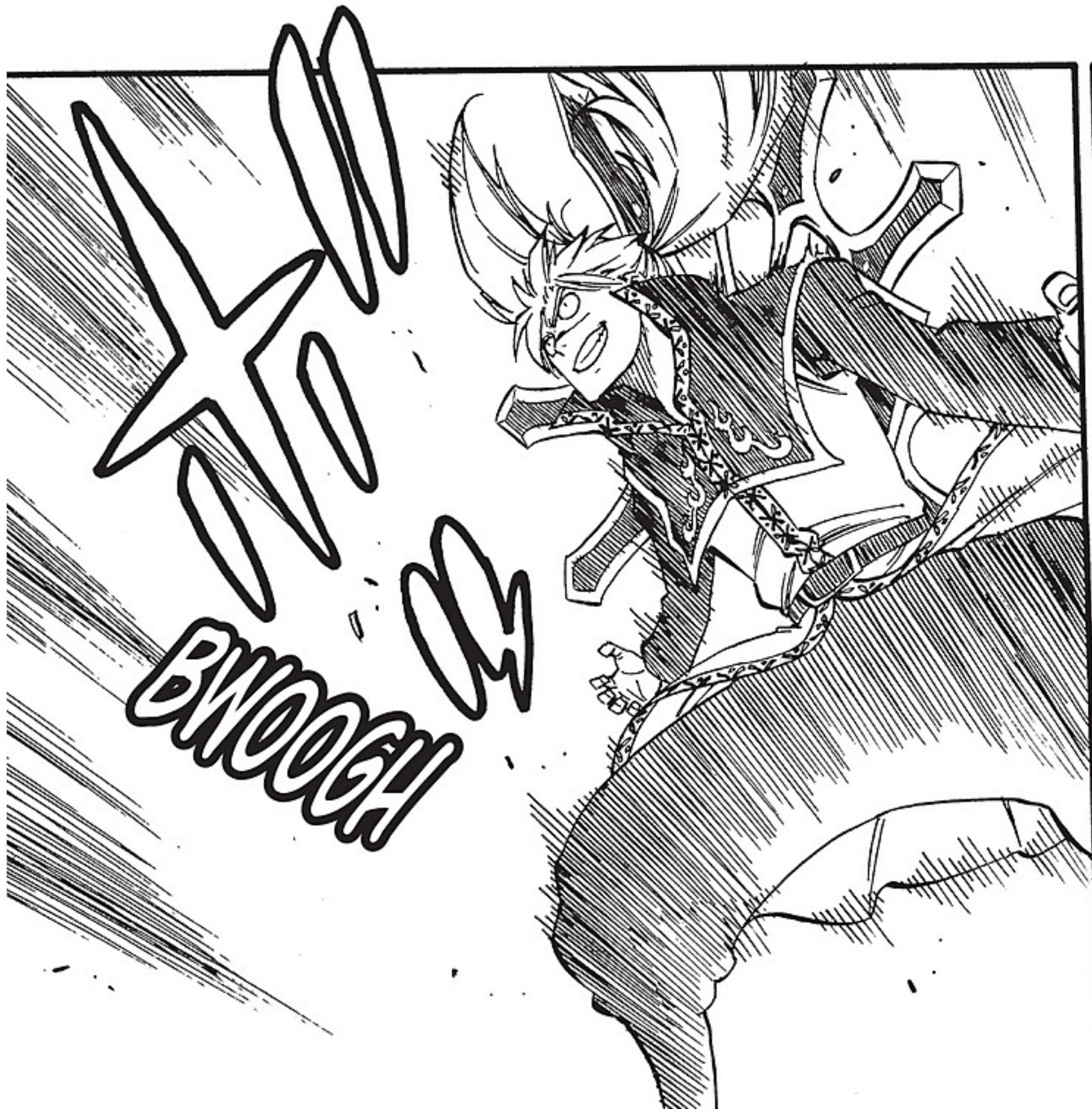
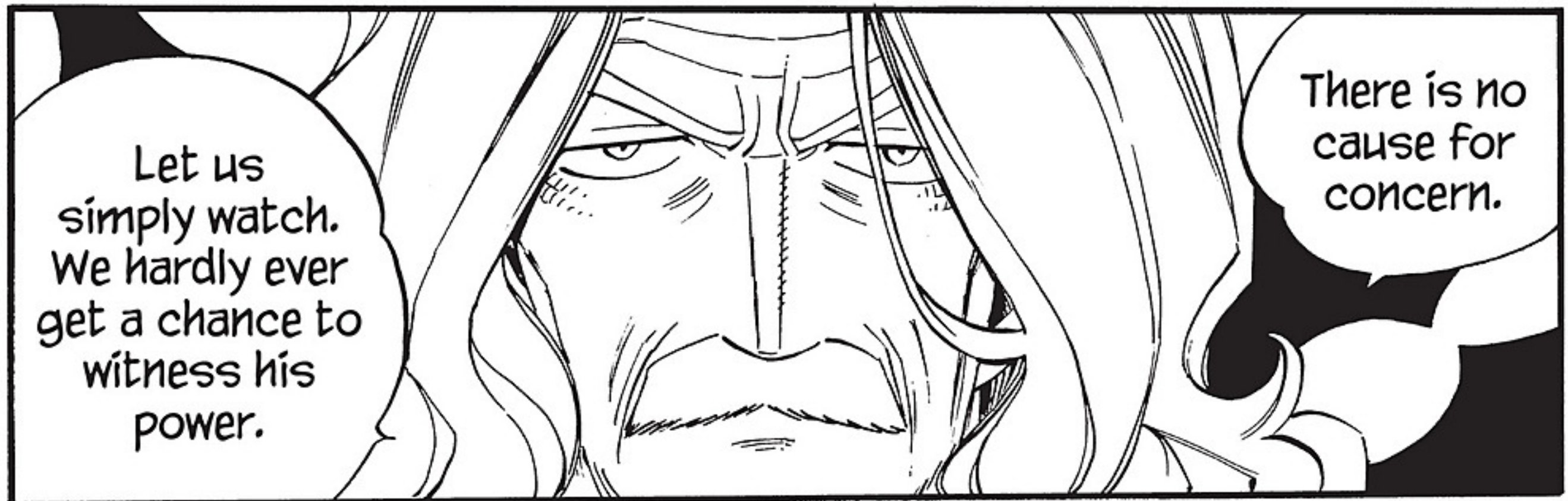
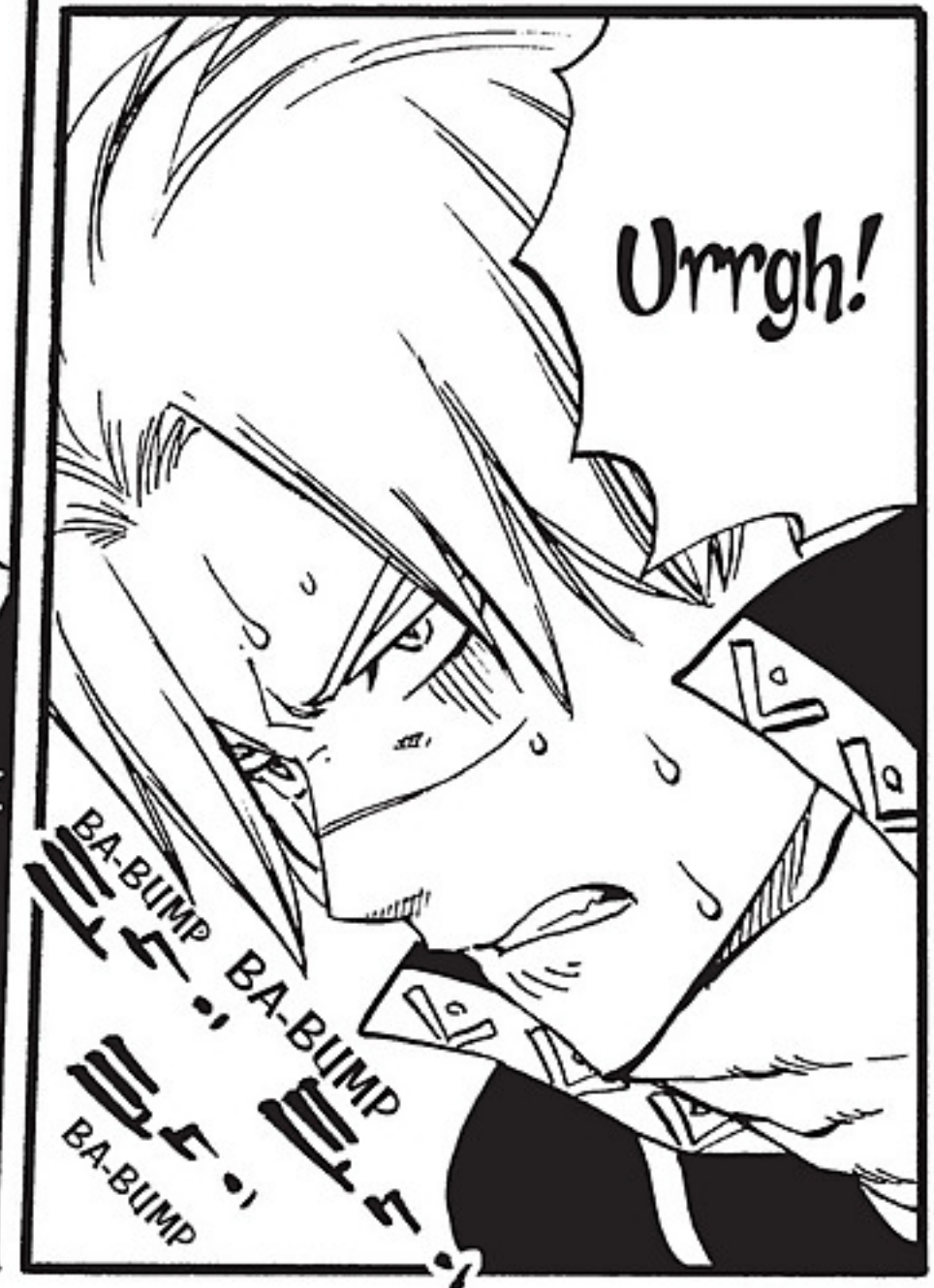
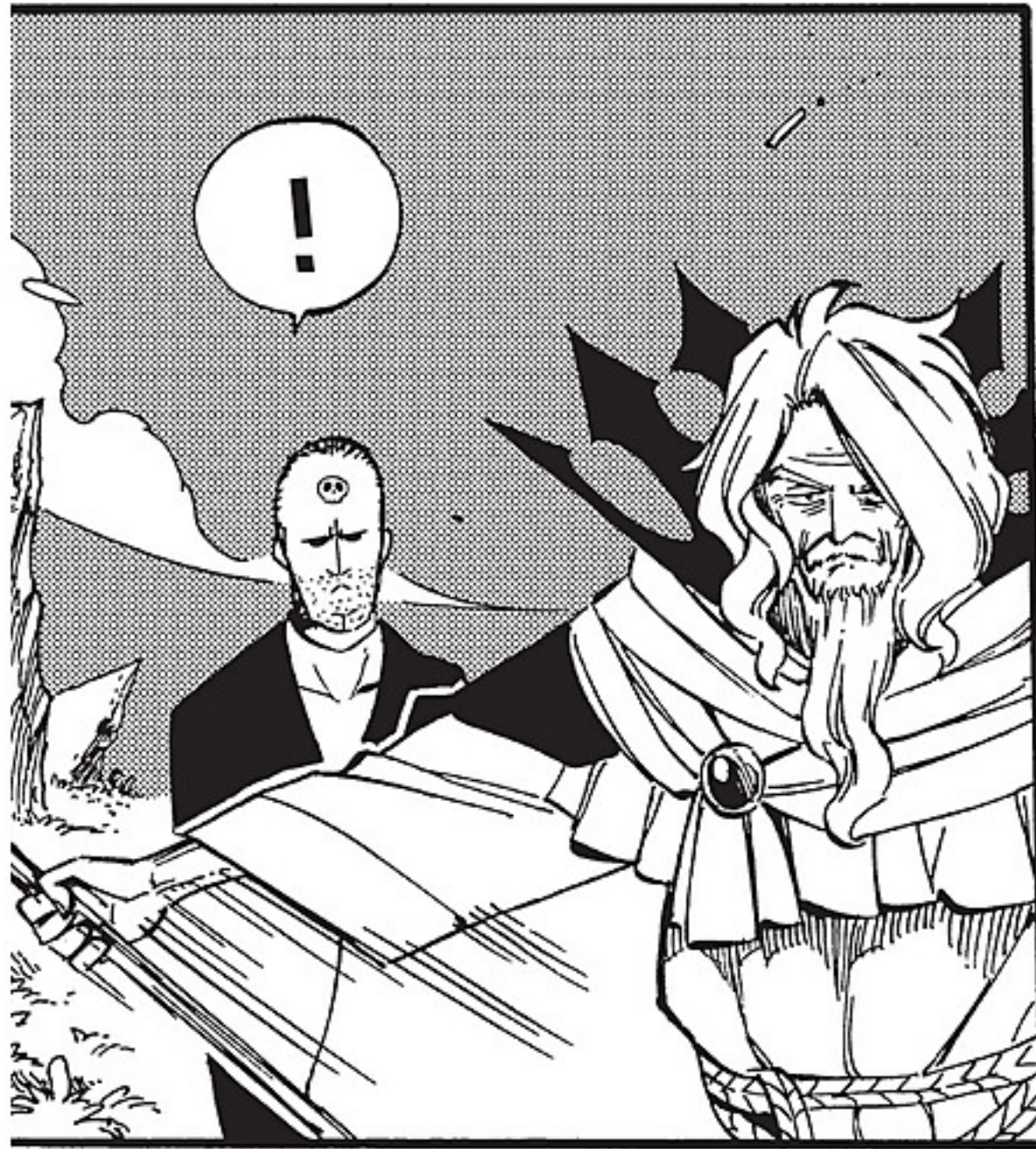




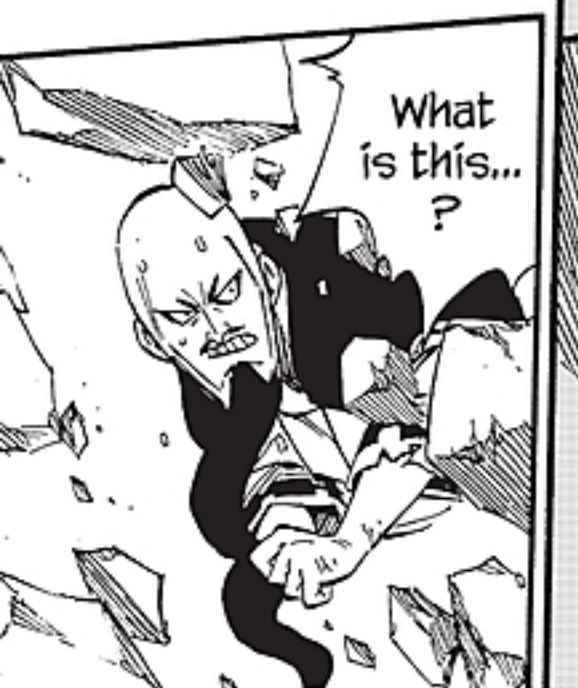
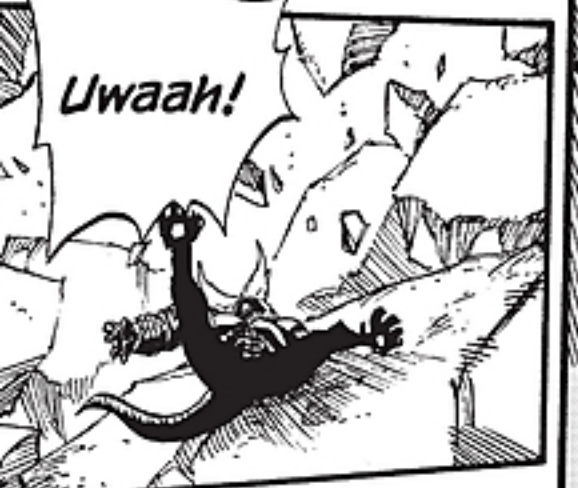




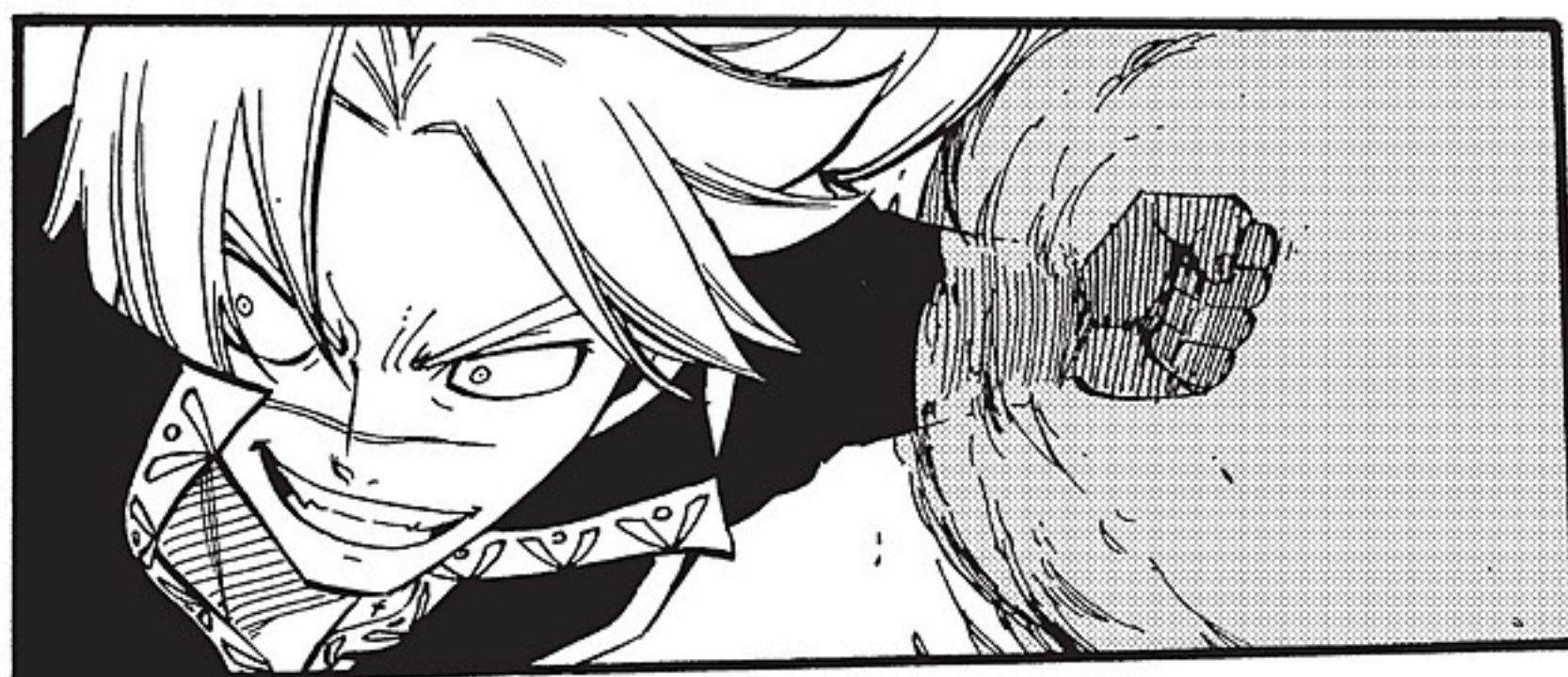
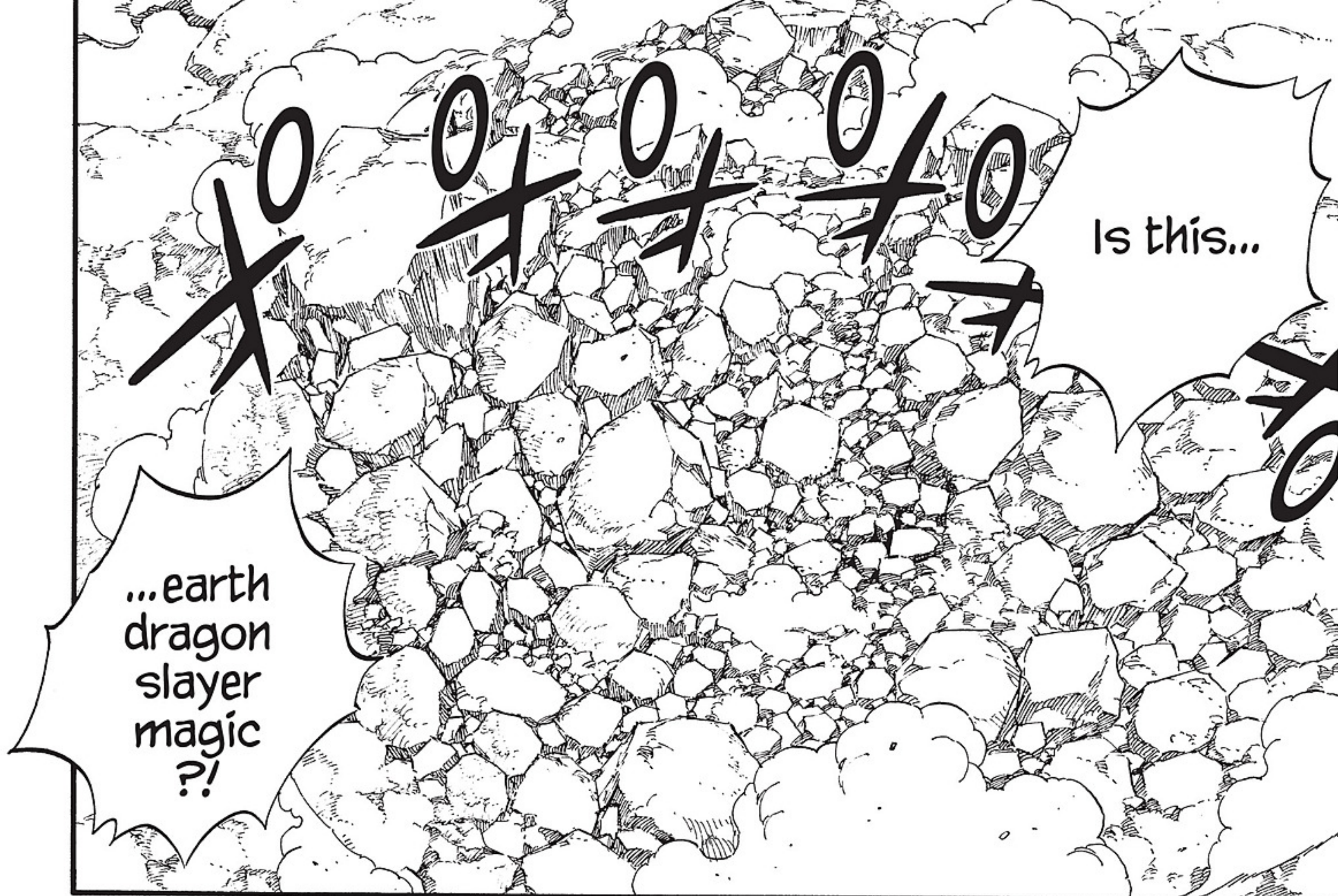




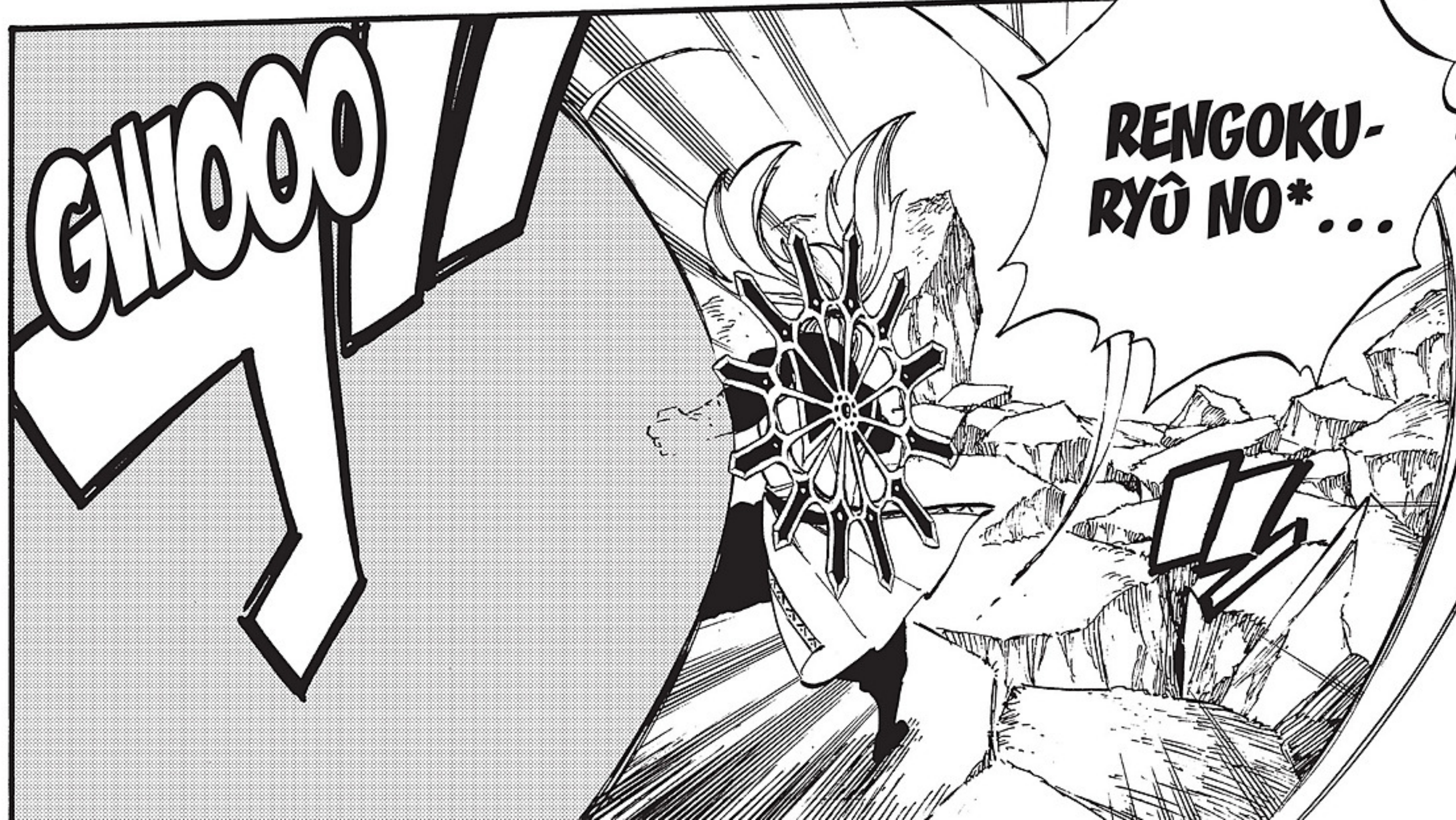




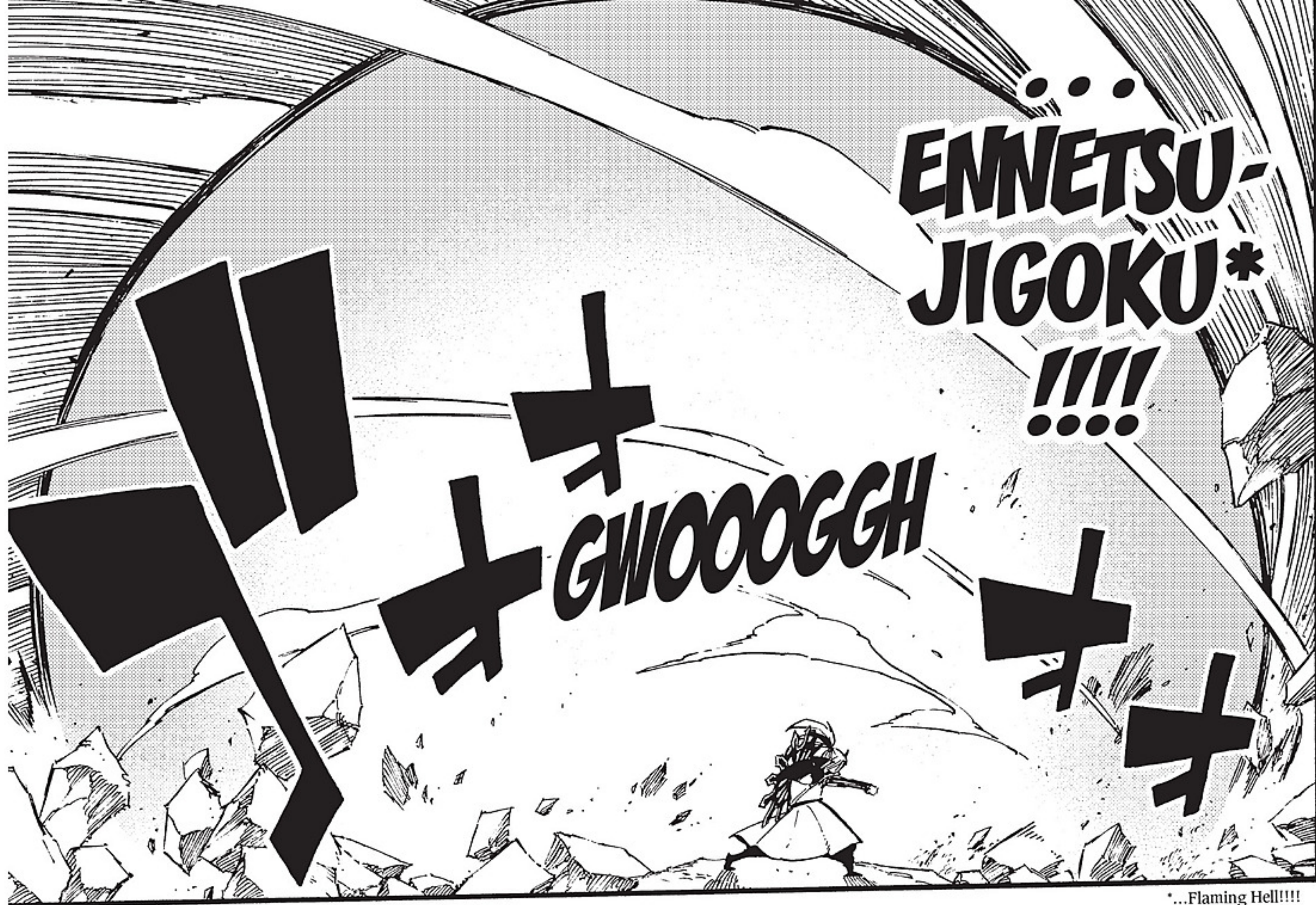




\*Purgatory Dragon's...





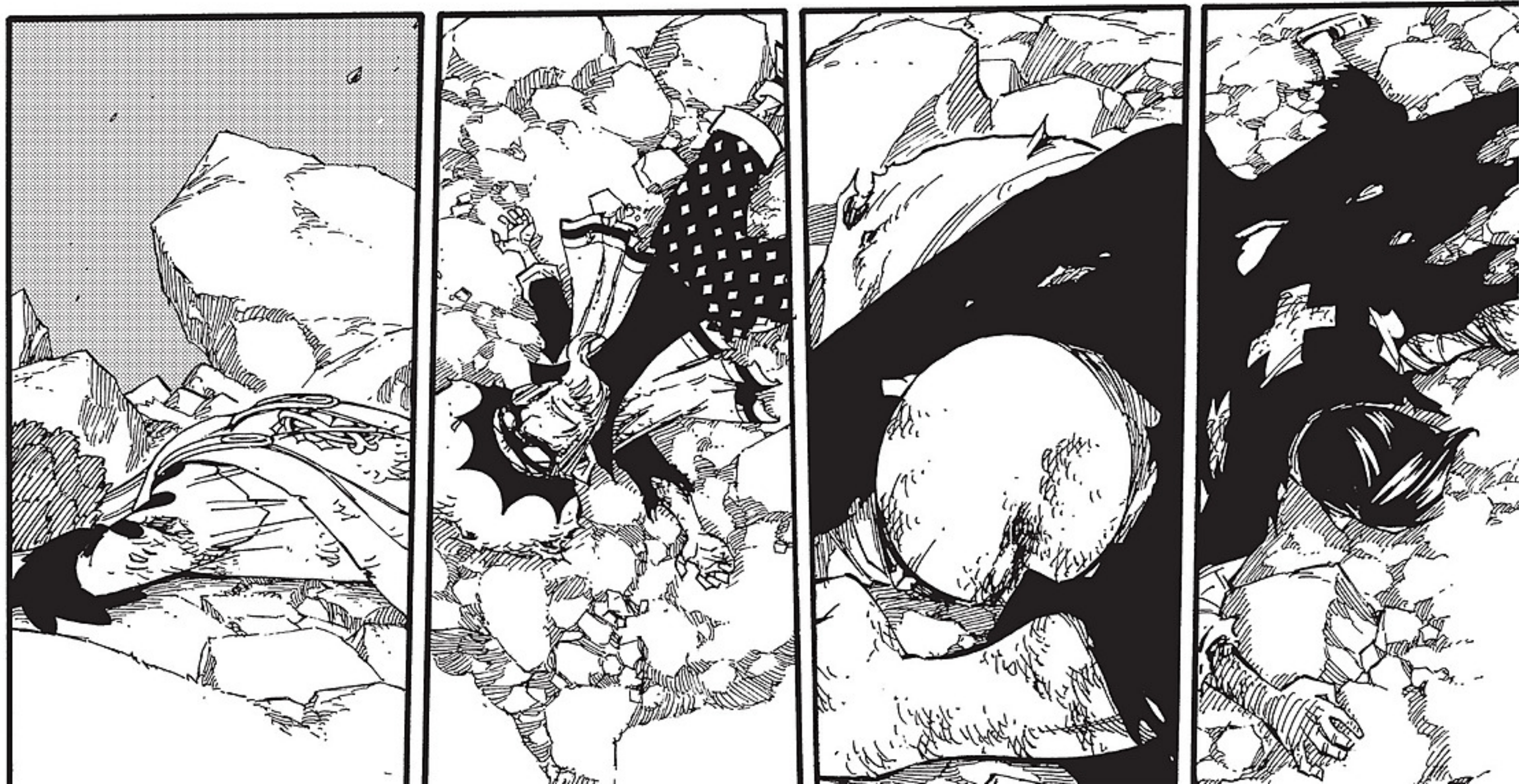
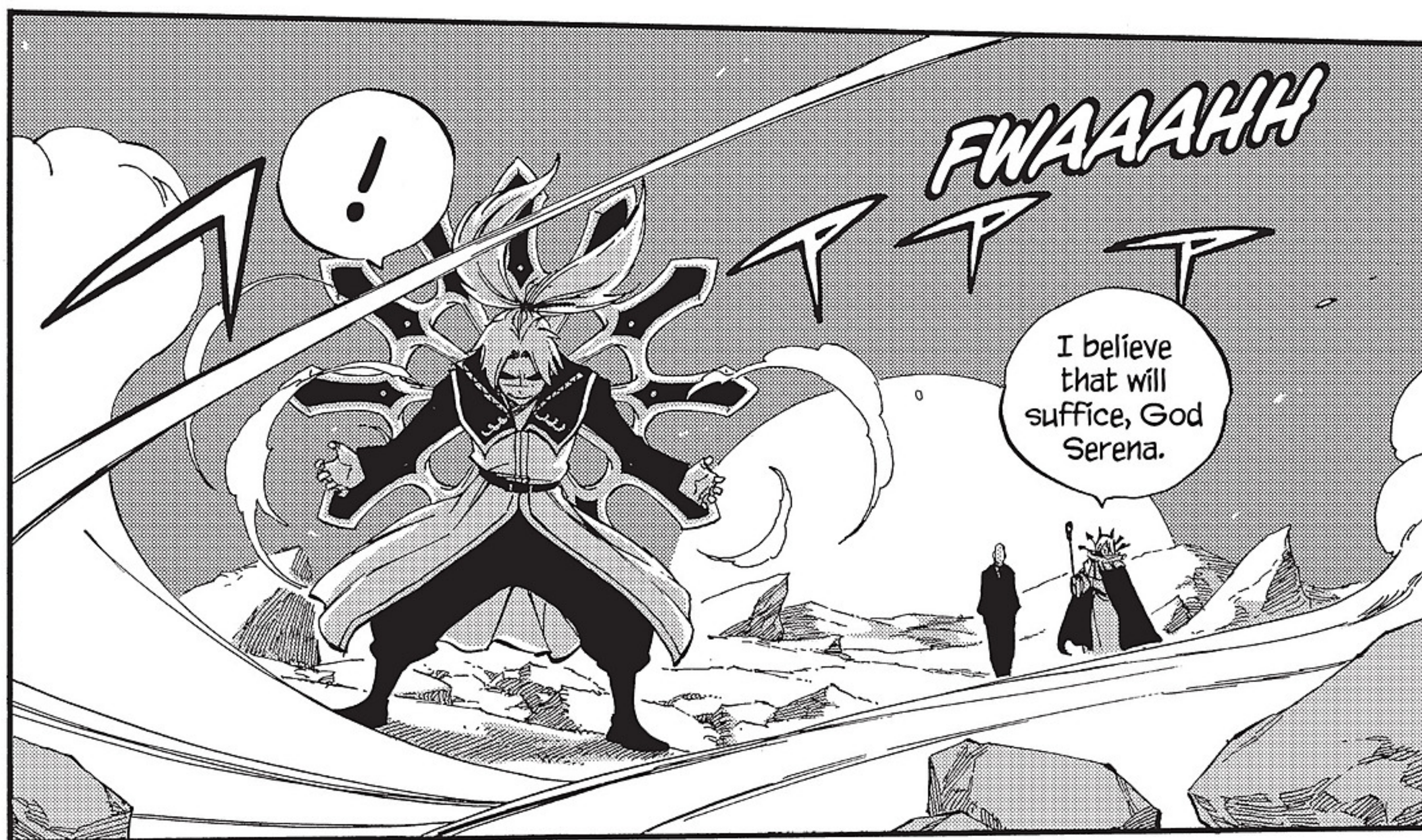


\*...Flaming Hell!!!!

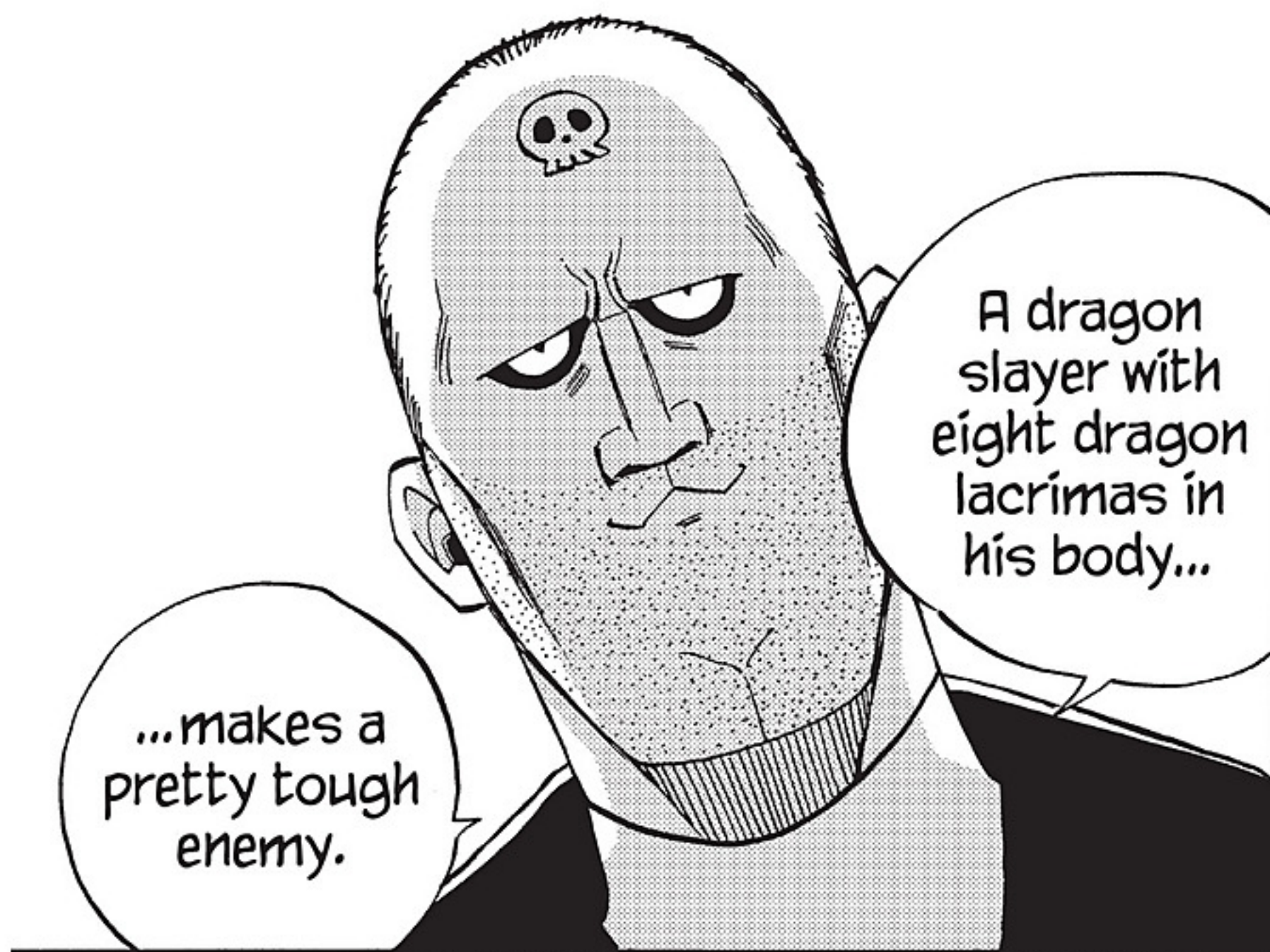
\*\*Sea King Dragon's Encircling Deluge!!!!









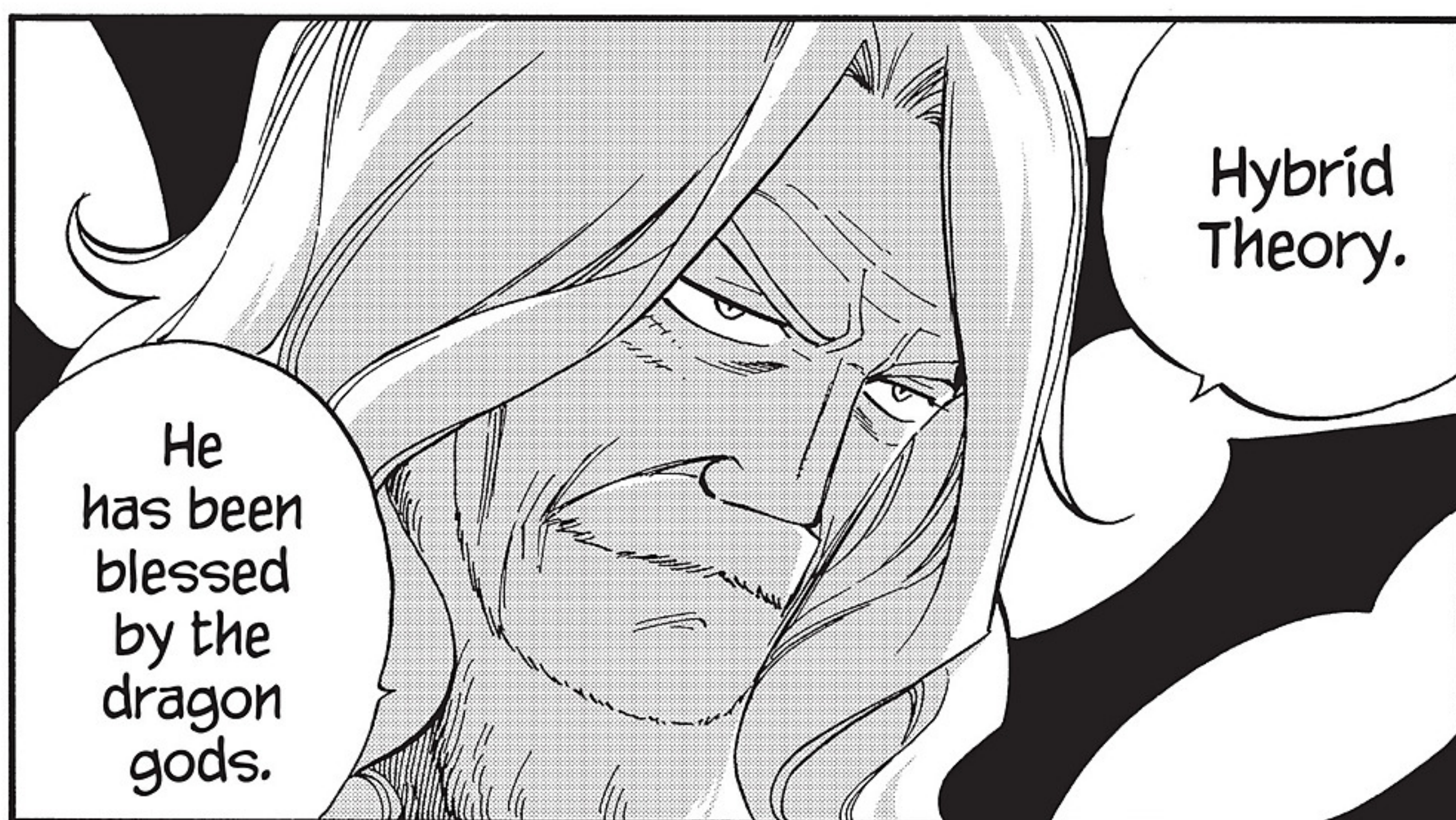


...makes a pretty tough enemy.

A dragon slayer with eight dragon lacrimas in his body...

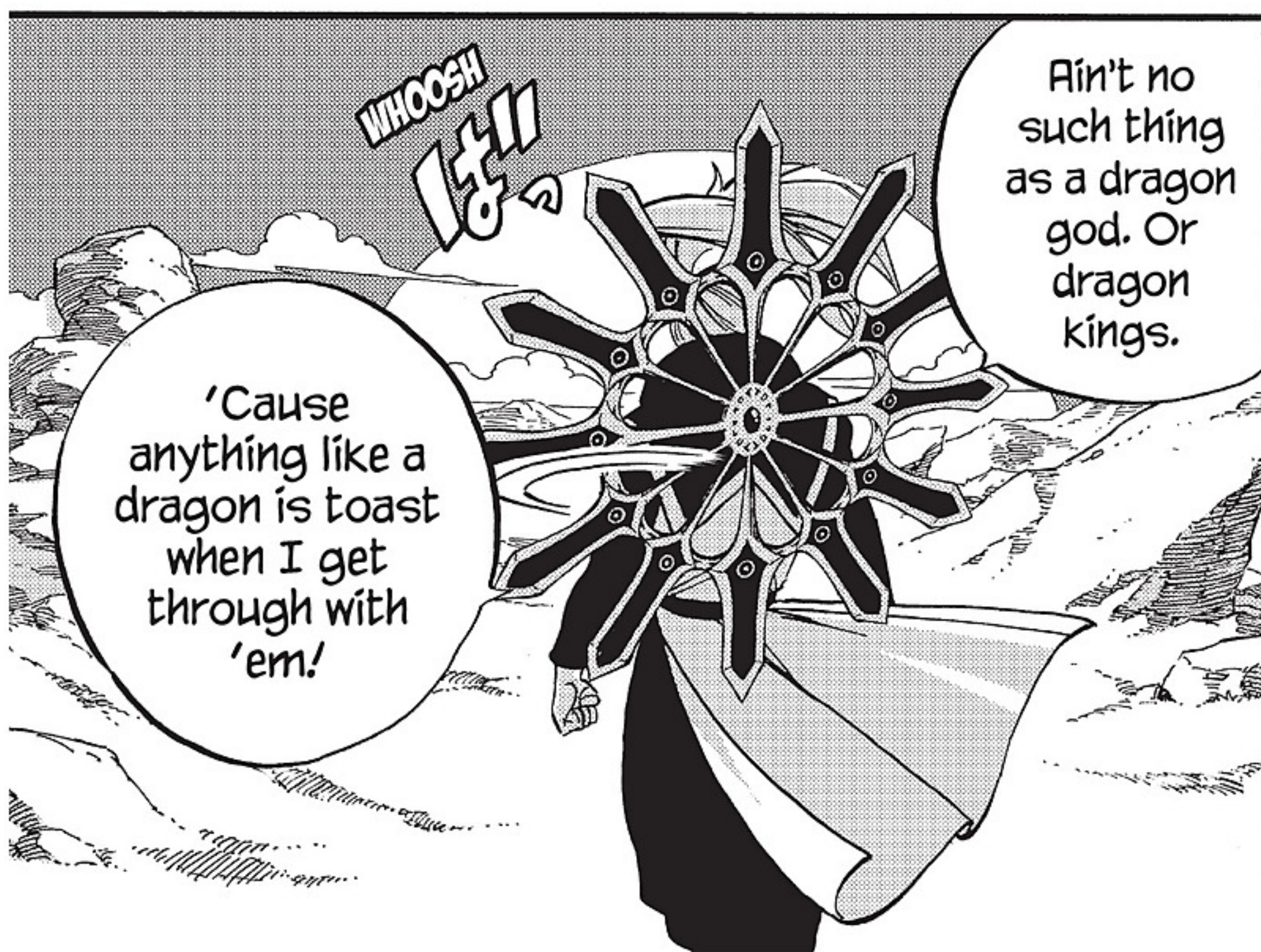


Ya think maybe I overdid it?



He has been blessed by the dragon gods.

Hybrid Theory.

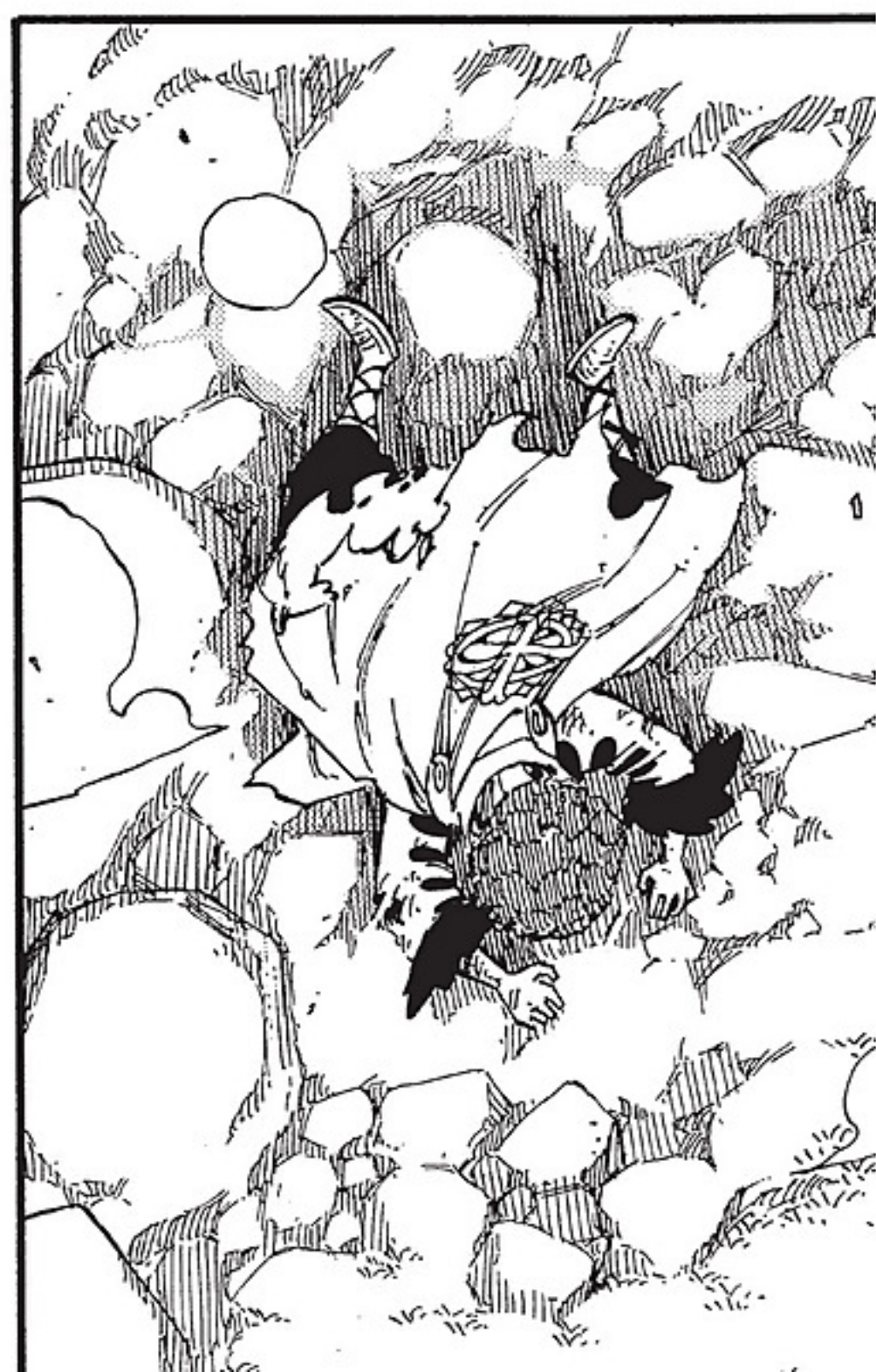
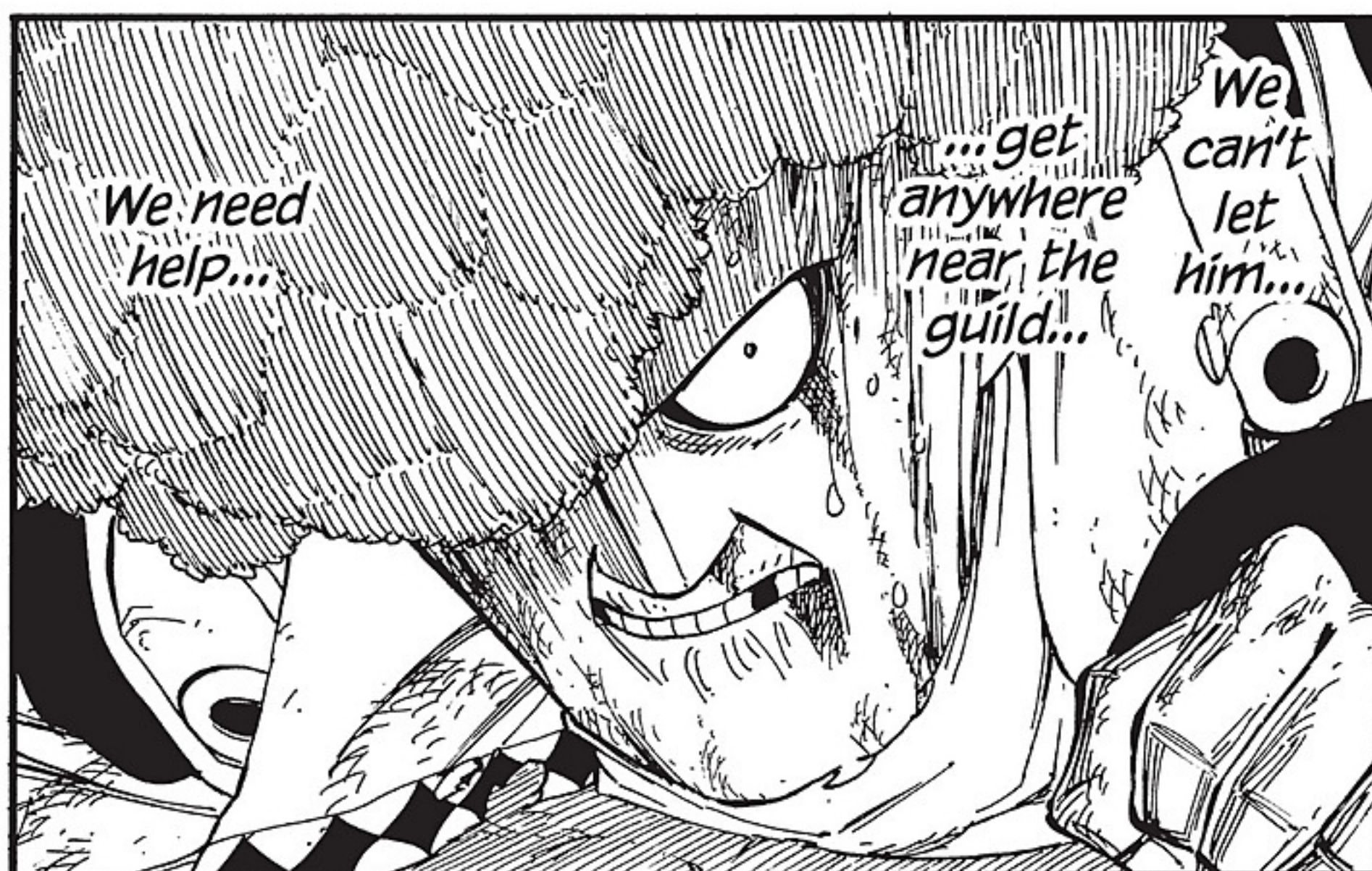


'Cause anything like a dragon is toast when I get through with 'em!

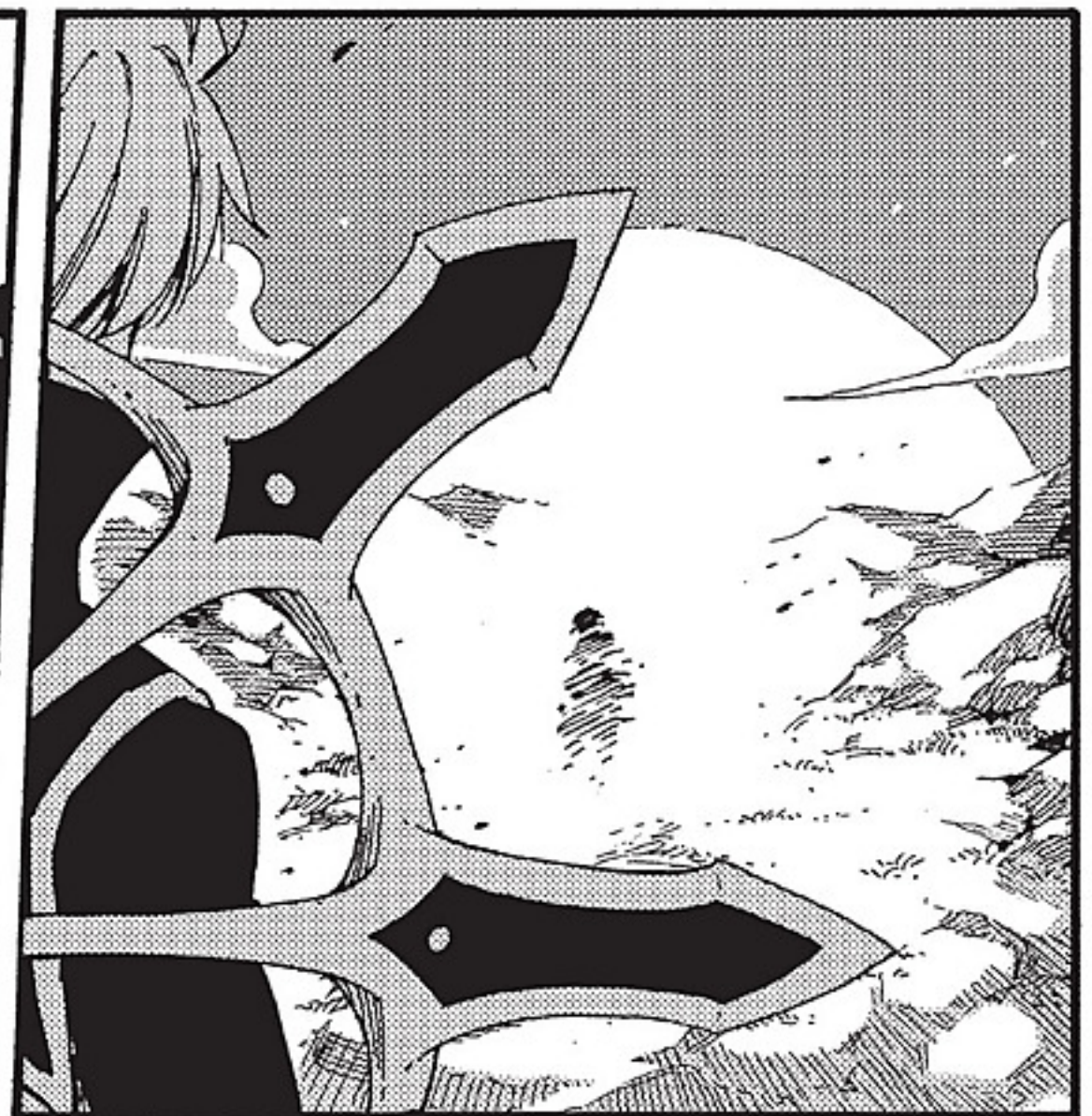
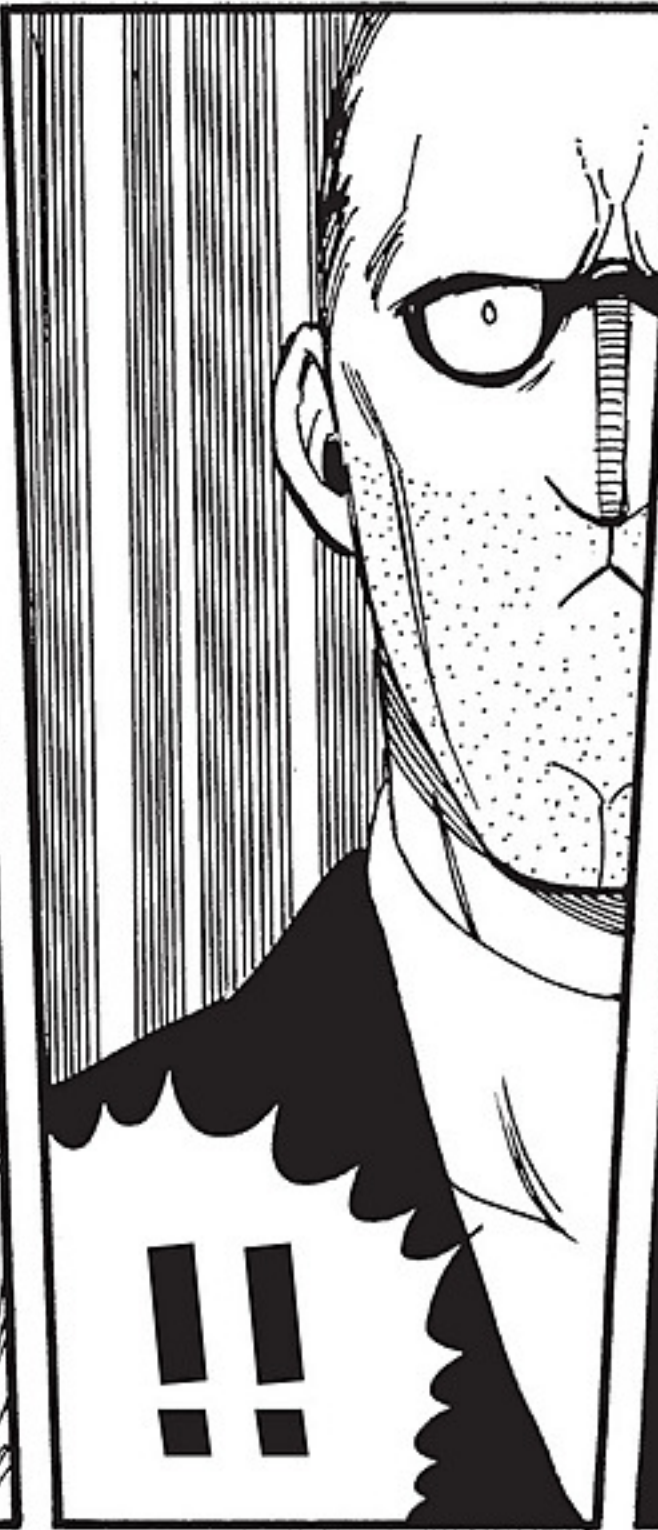
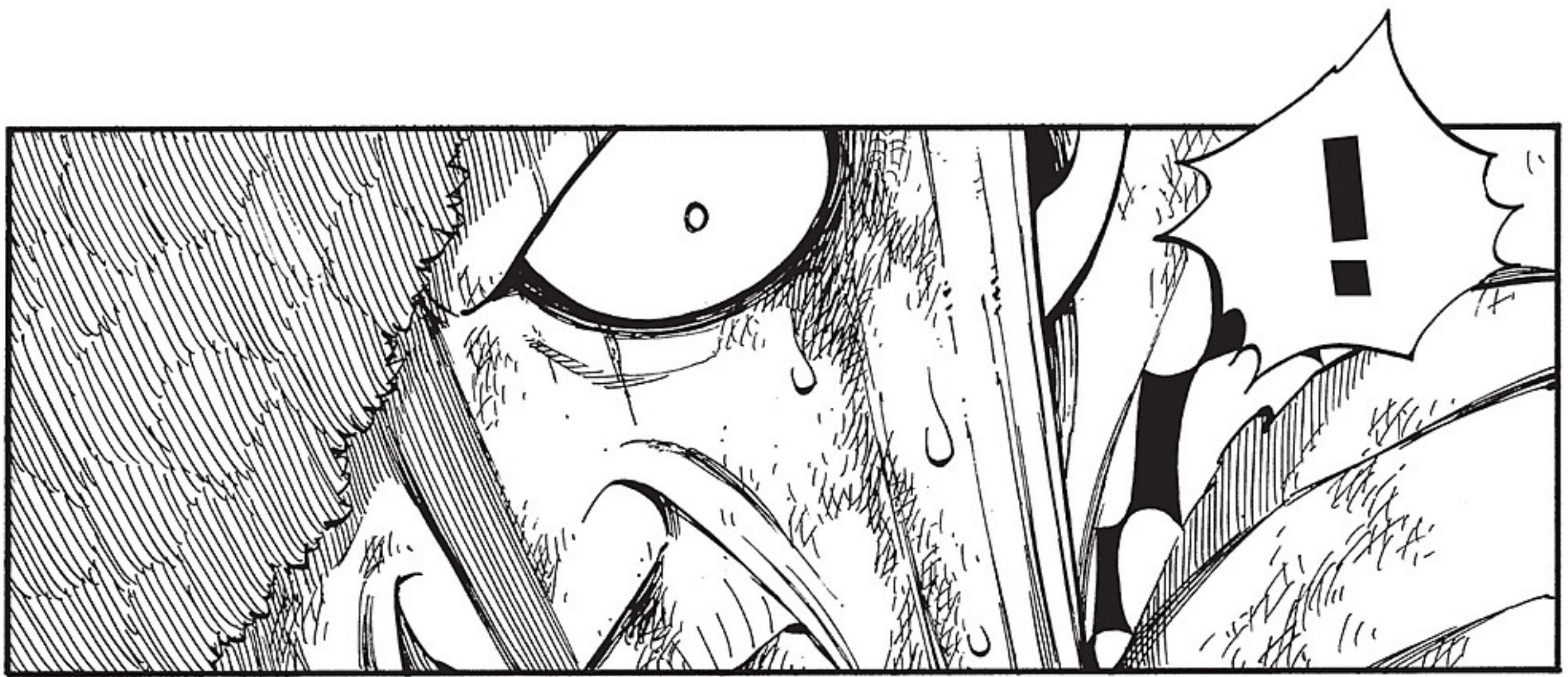
Ain't no such thing as a dragon god. Or dragon kings.







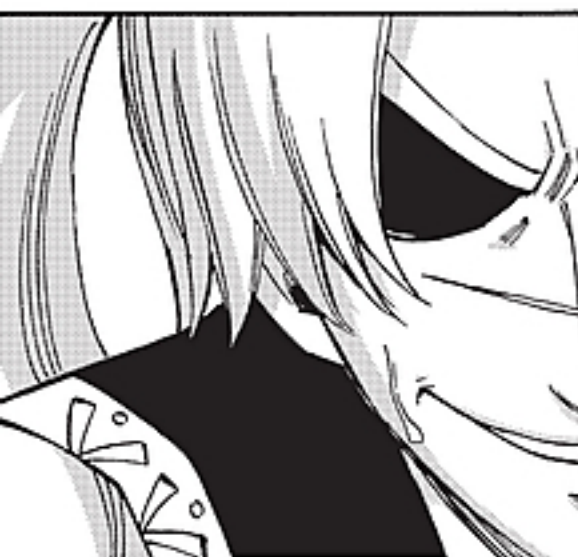
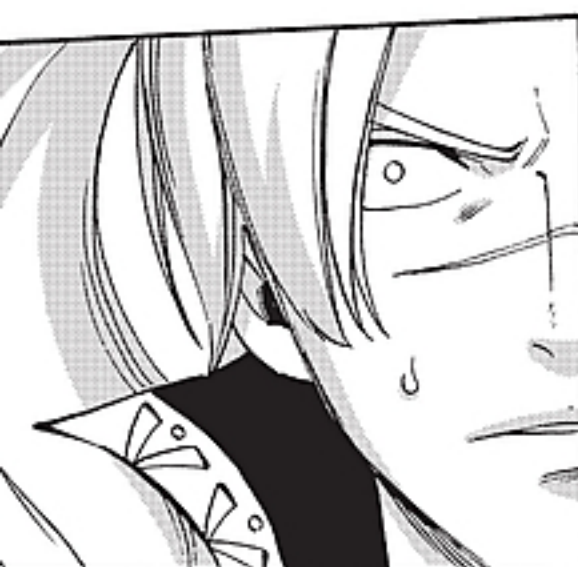






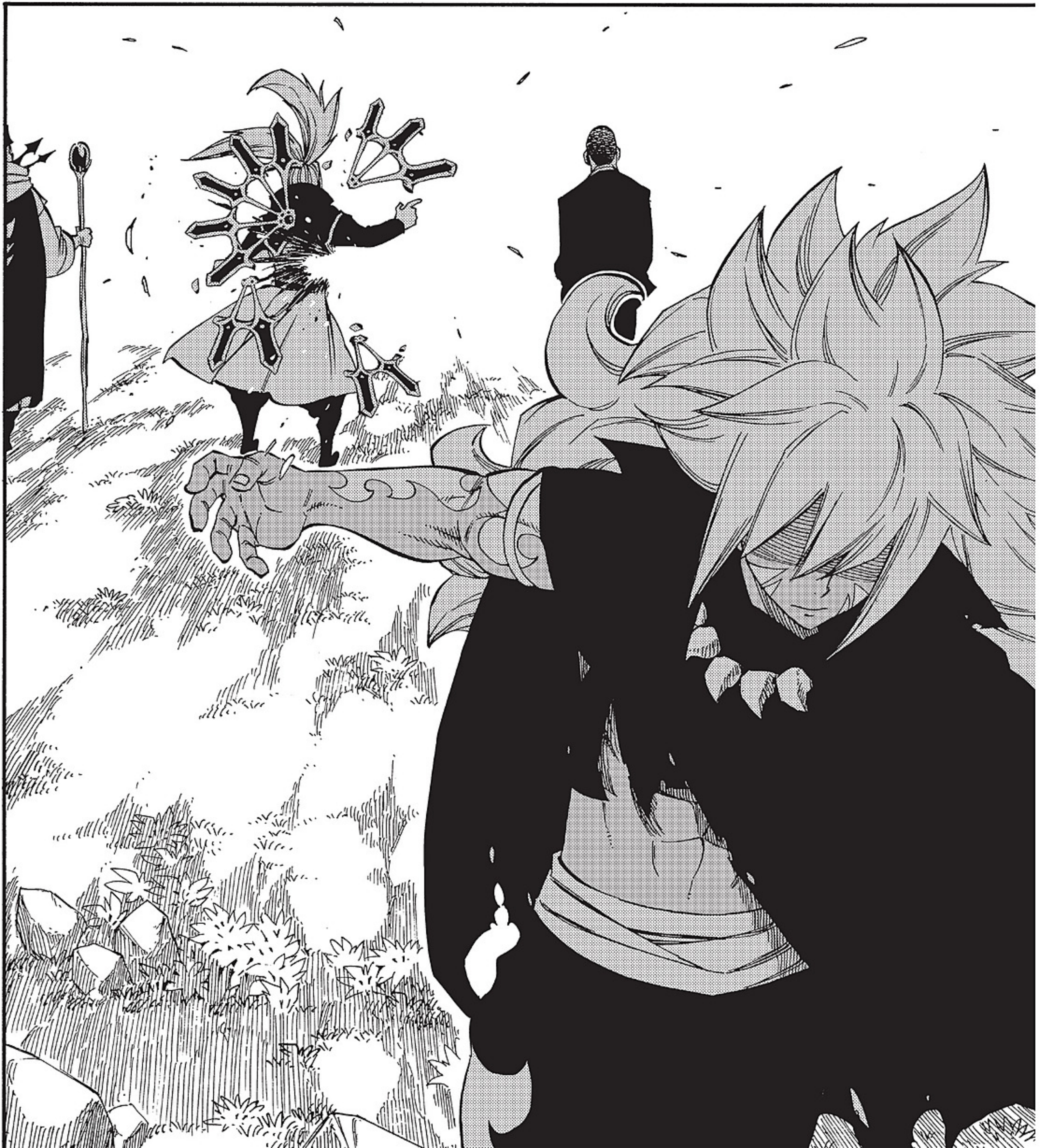


Acho-  
logía!

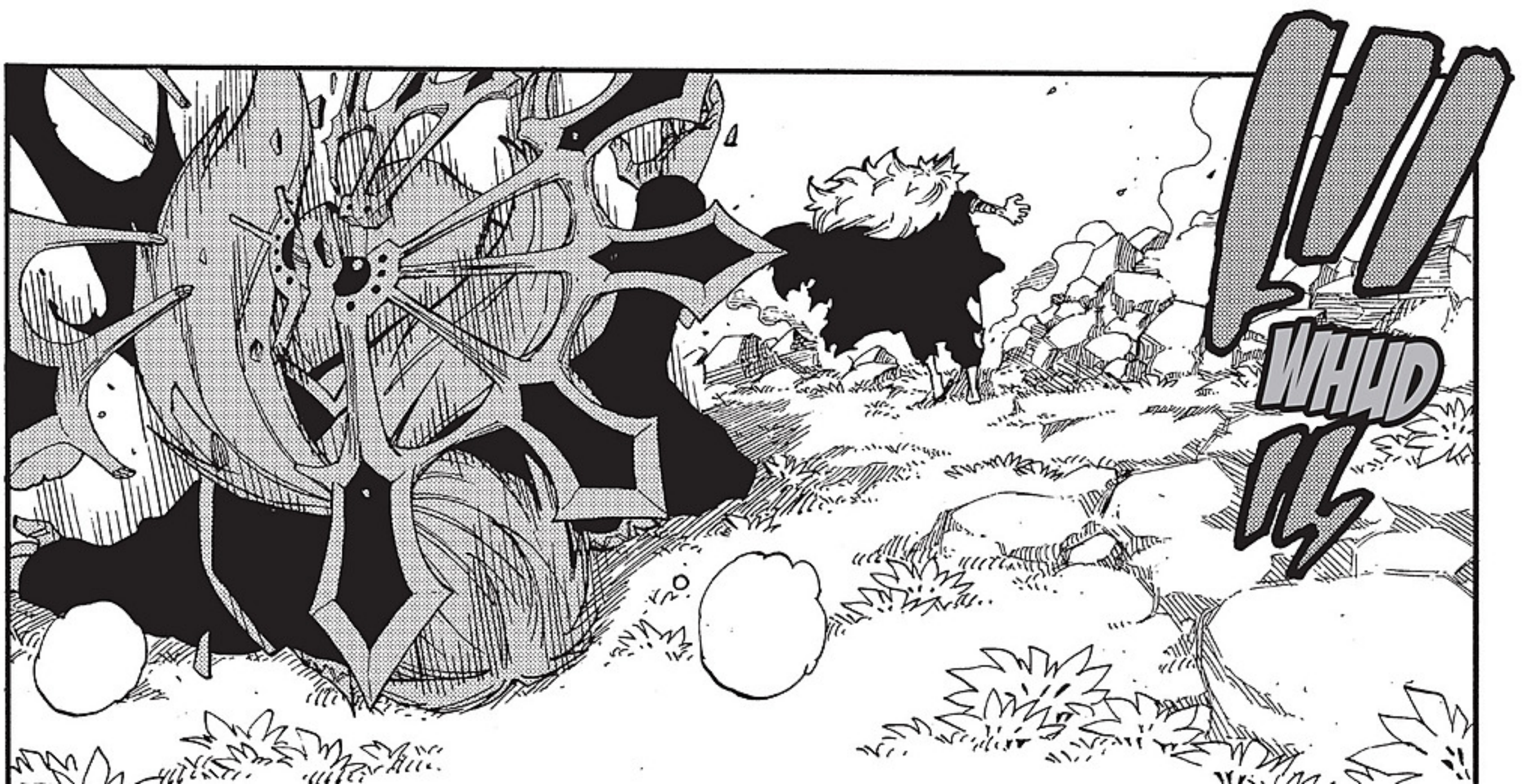
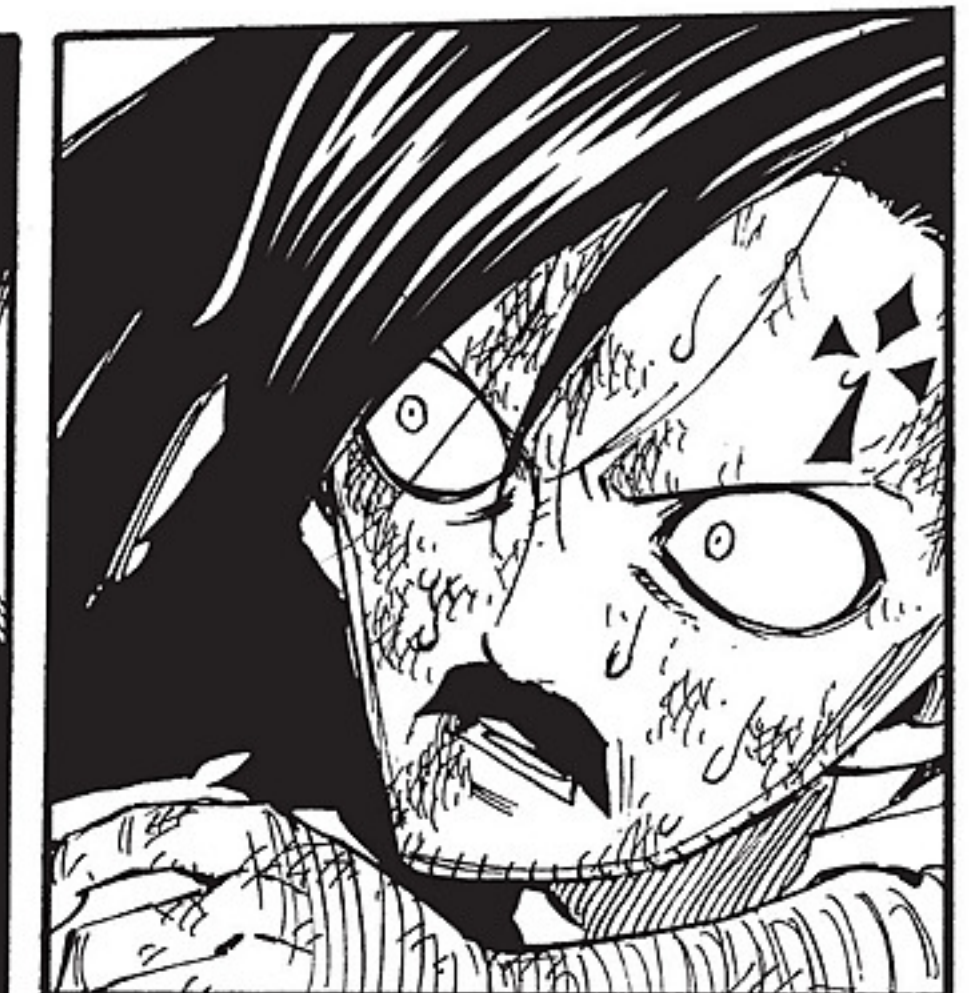
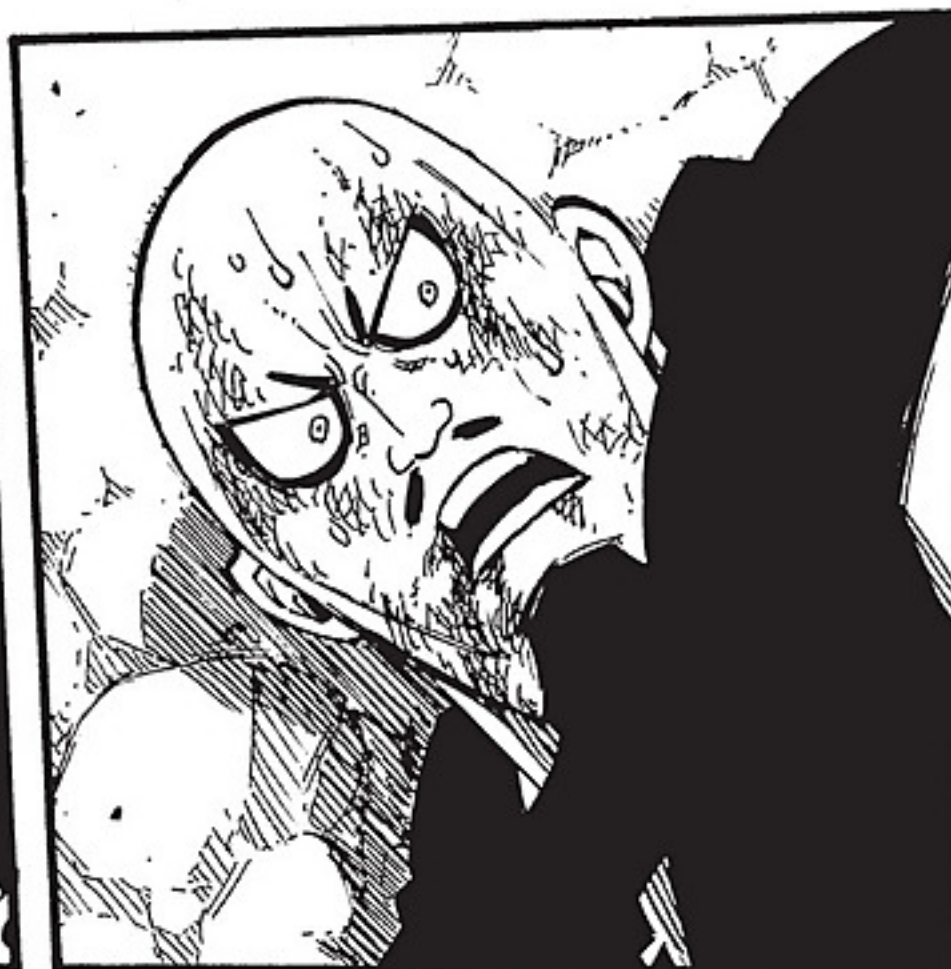
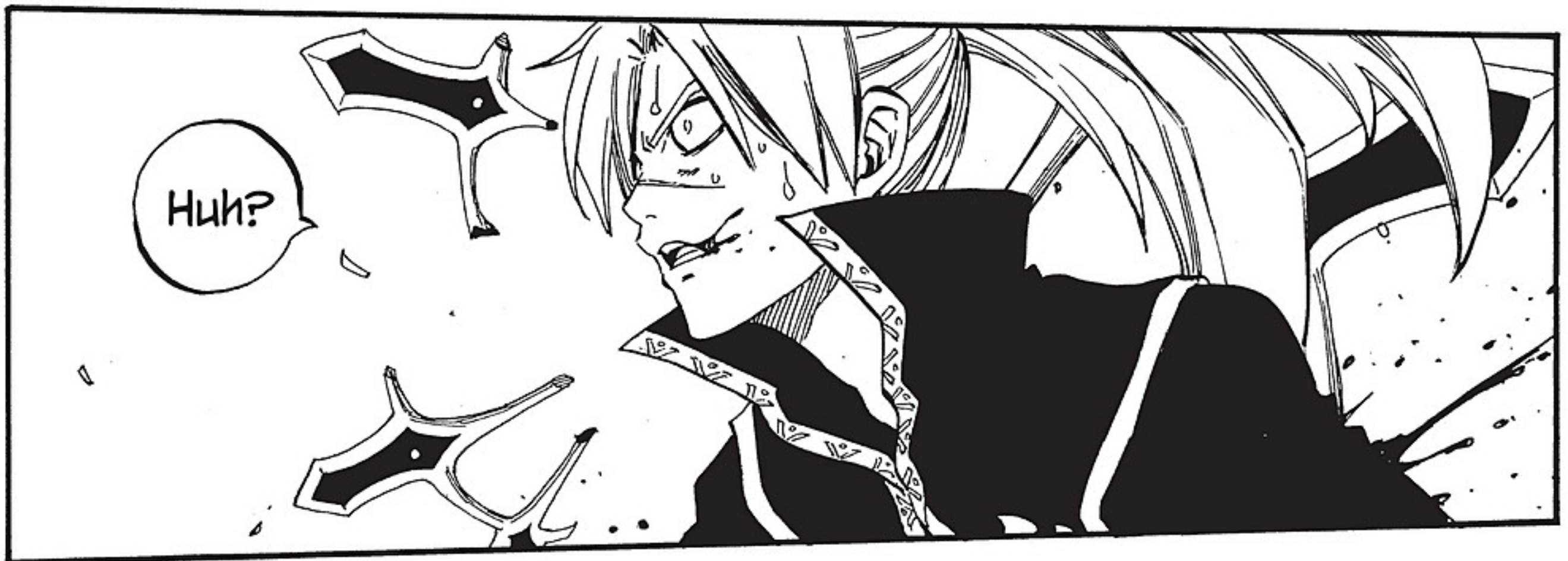
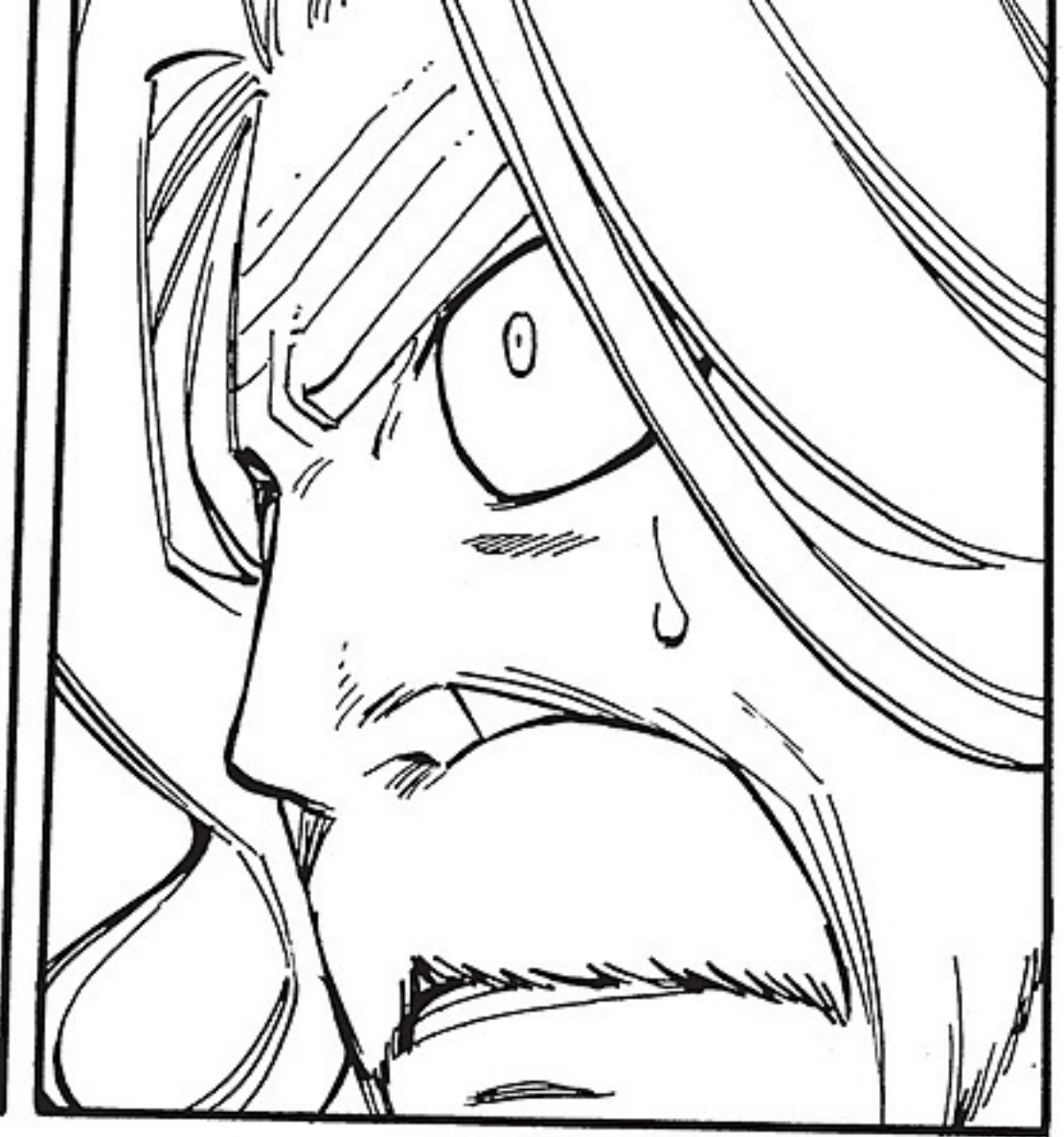
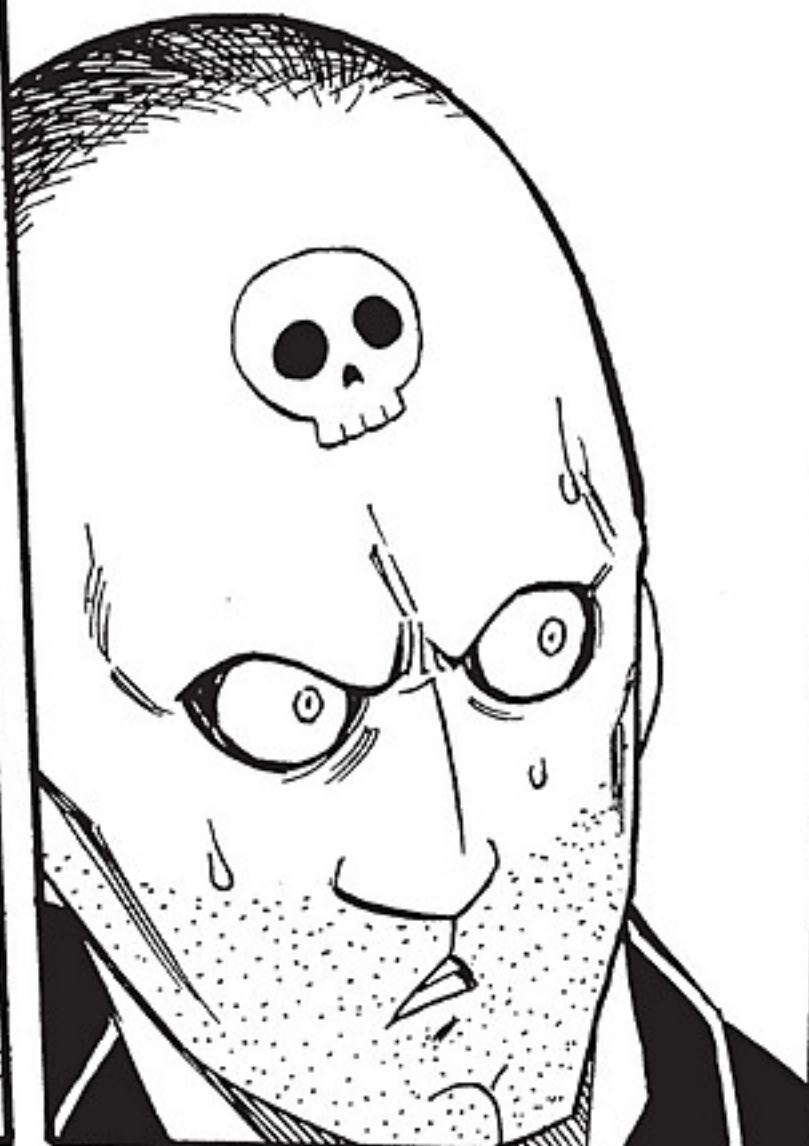
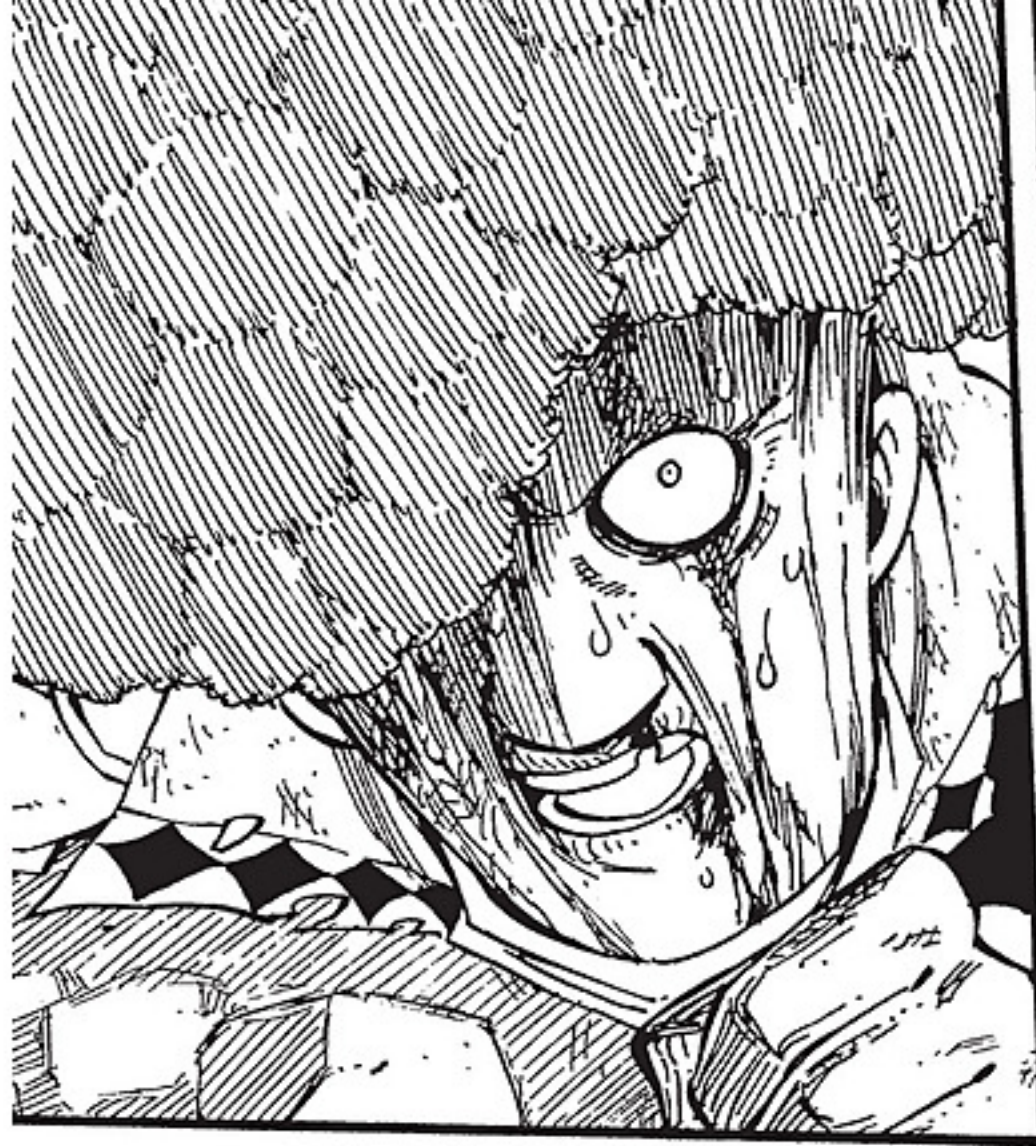


I smell  
dragon.













Only  
seven  
more  
now.

I will wipe  
all trace of  
the dragons  
from this  
world!



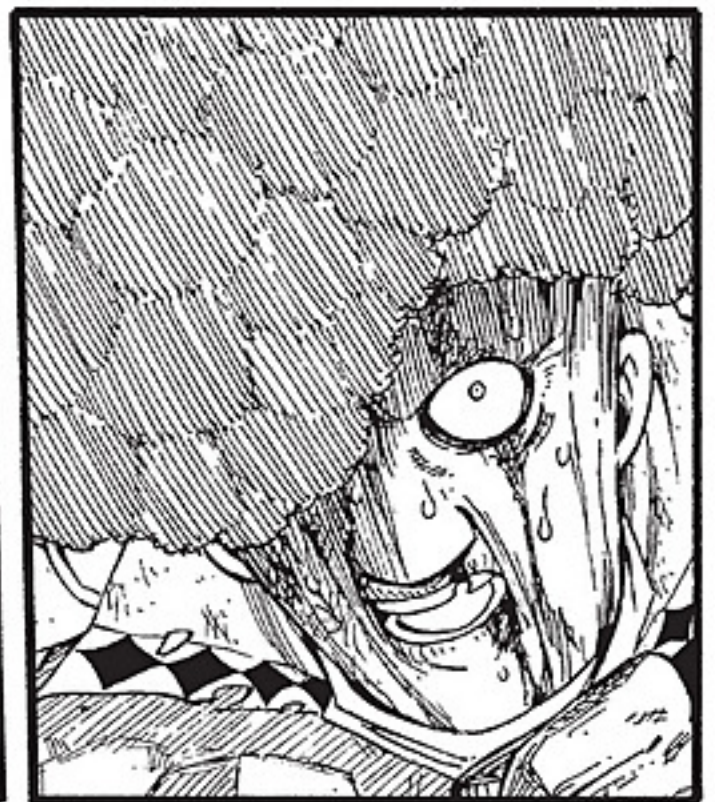
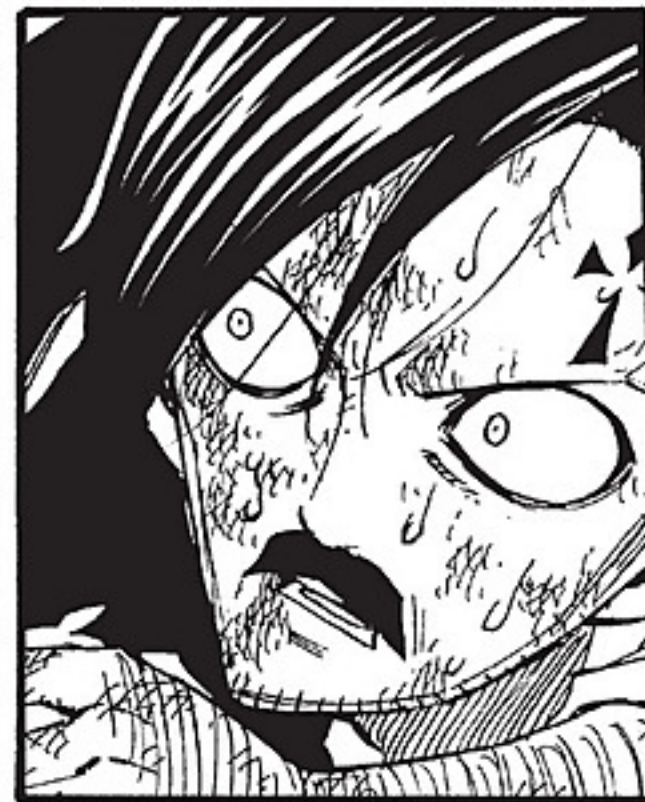
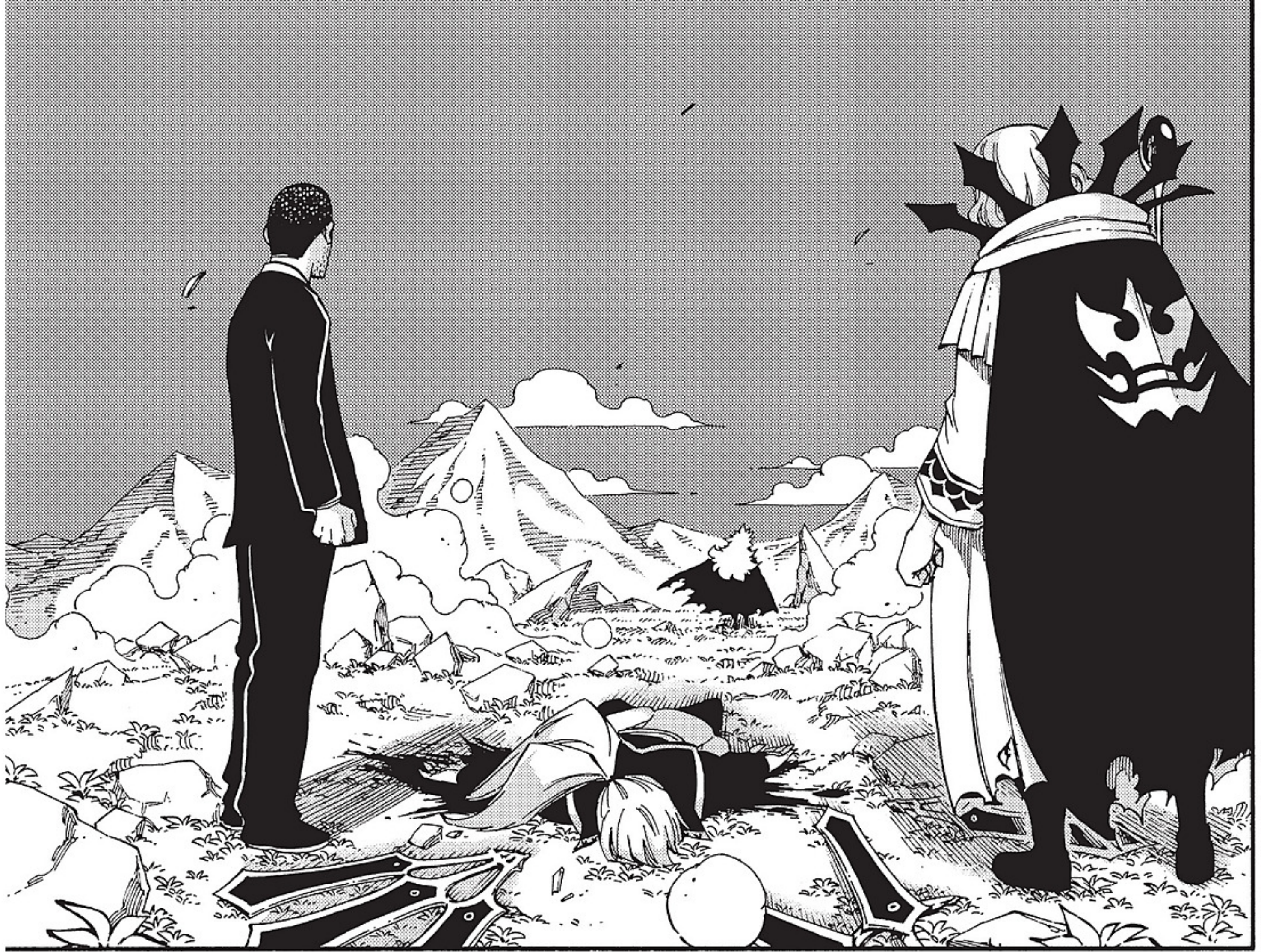
# Chapter 471: Until the Battle Is Done



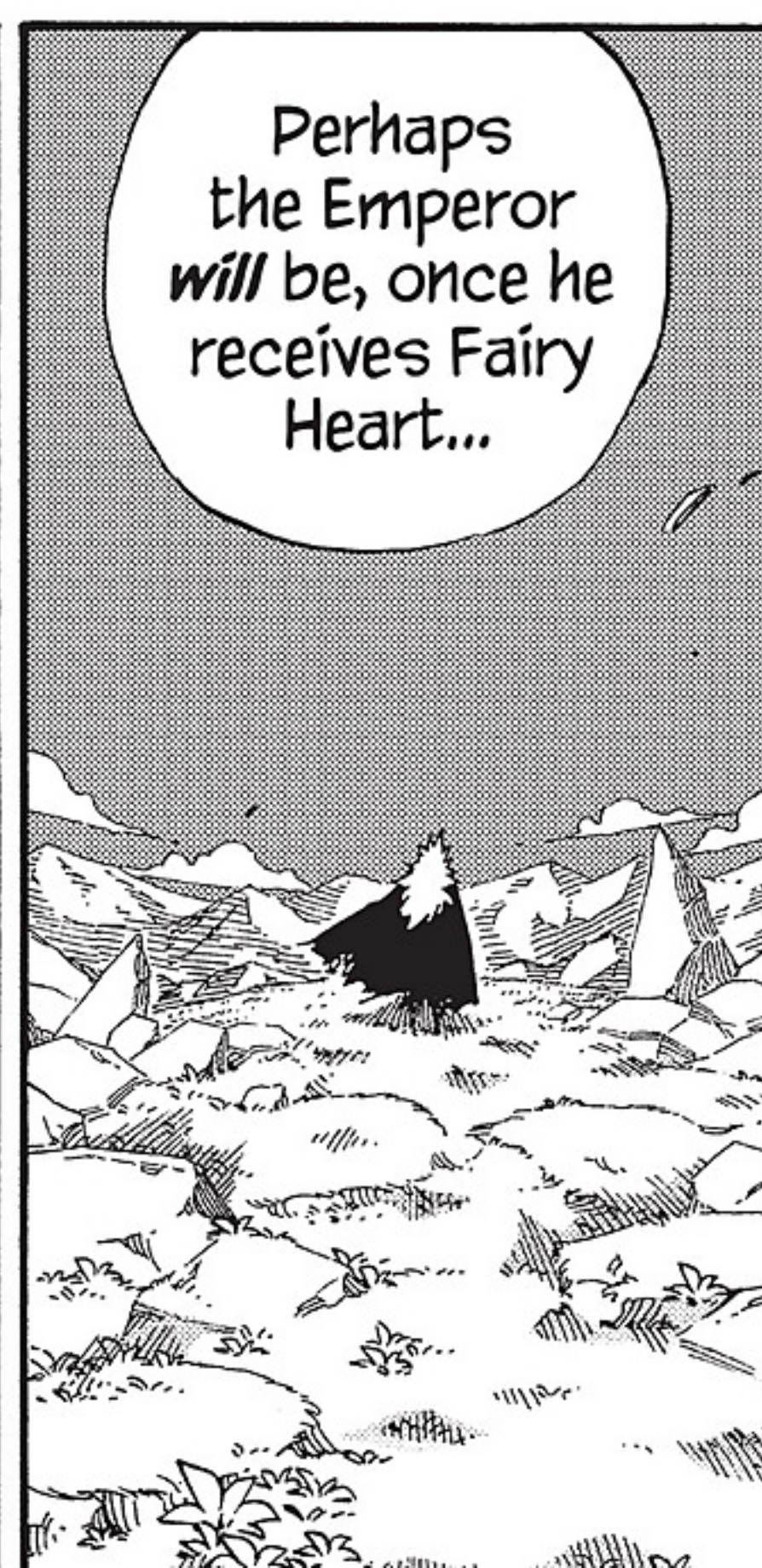
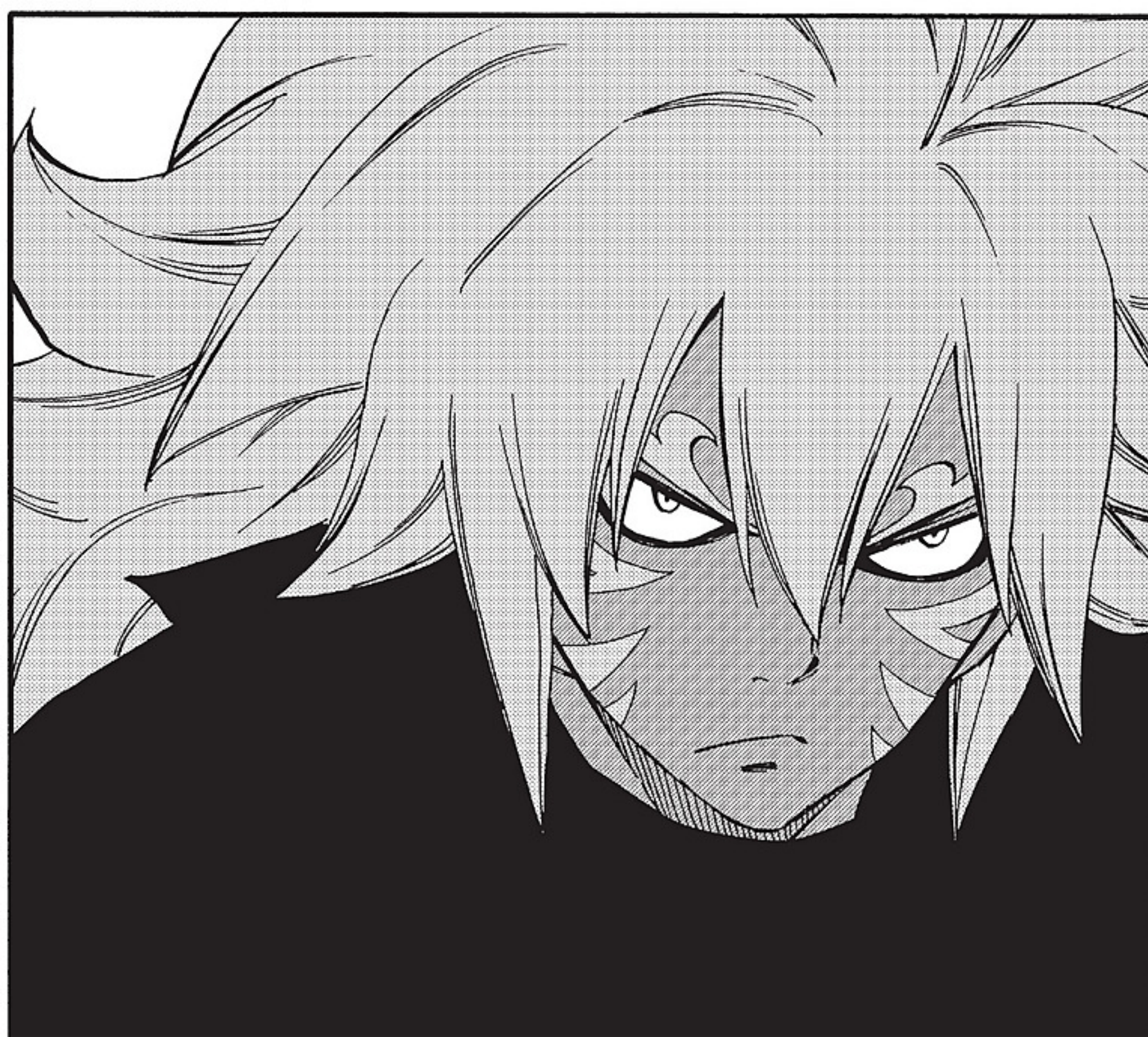
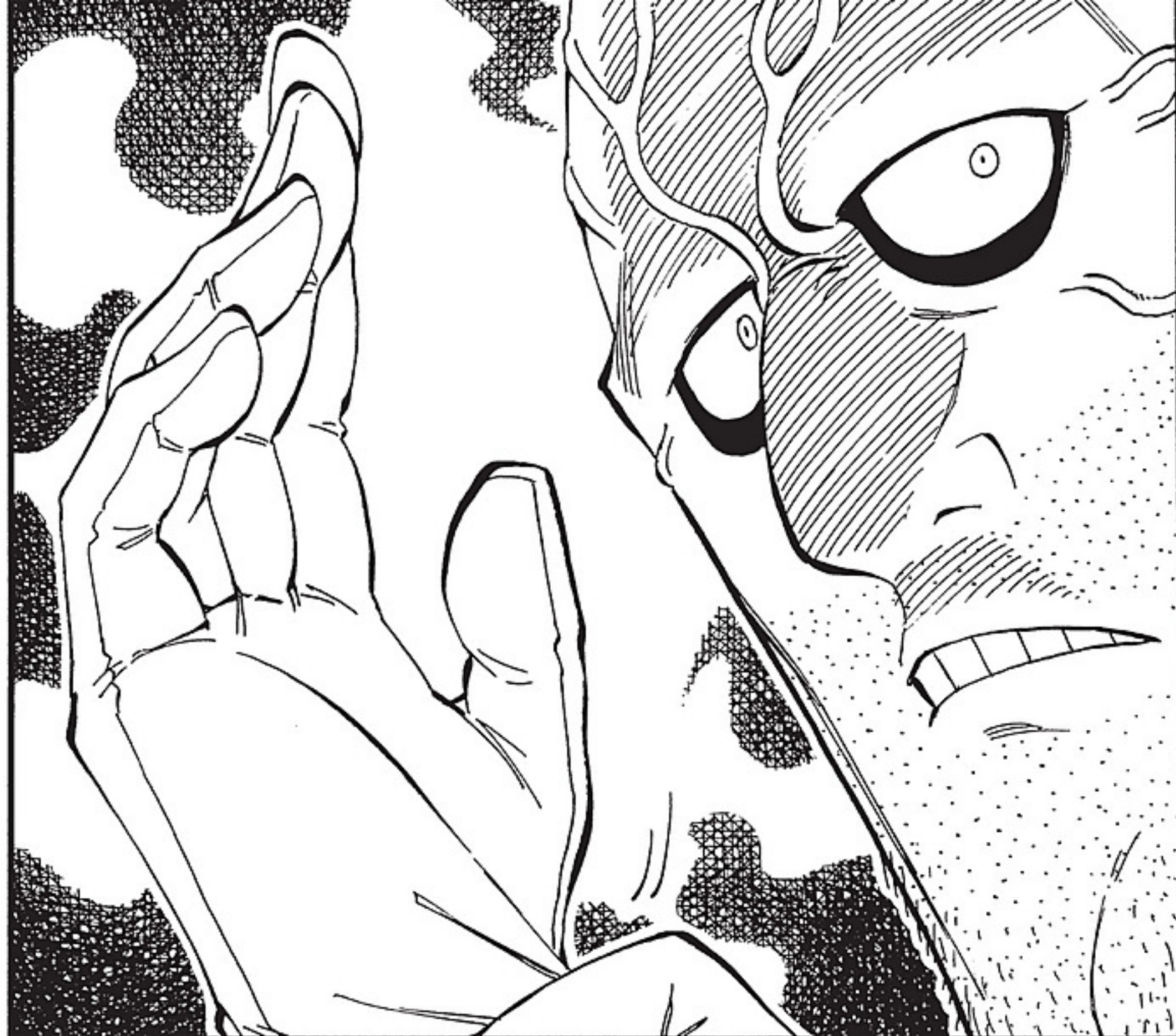




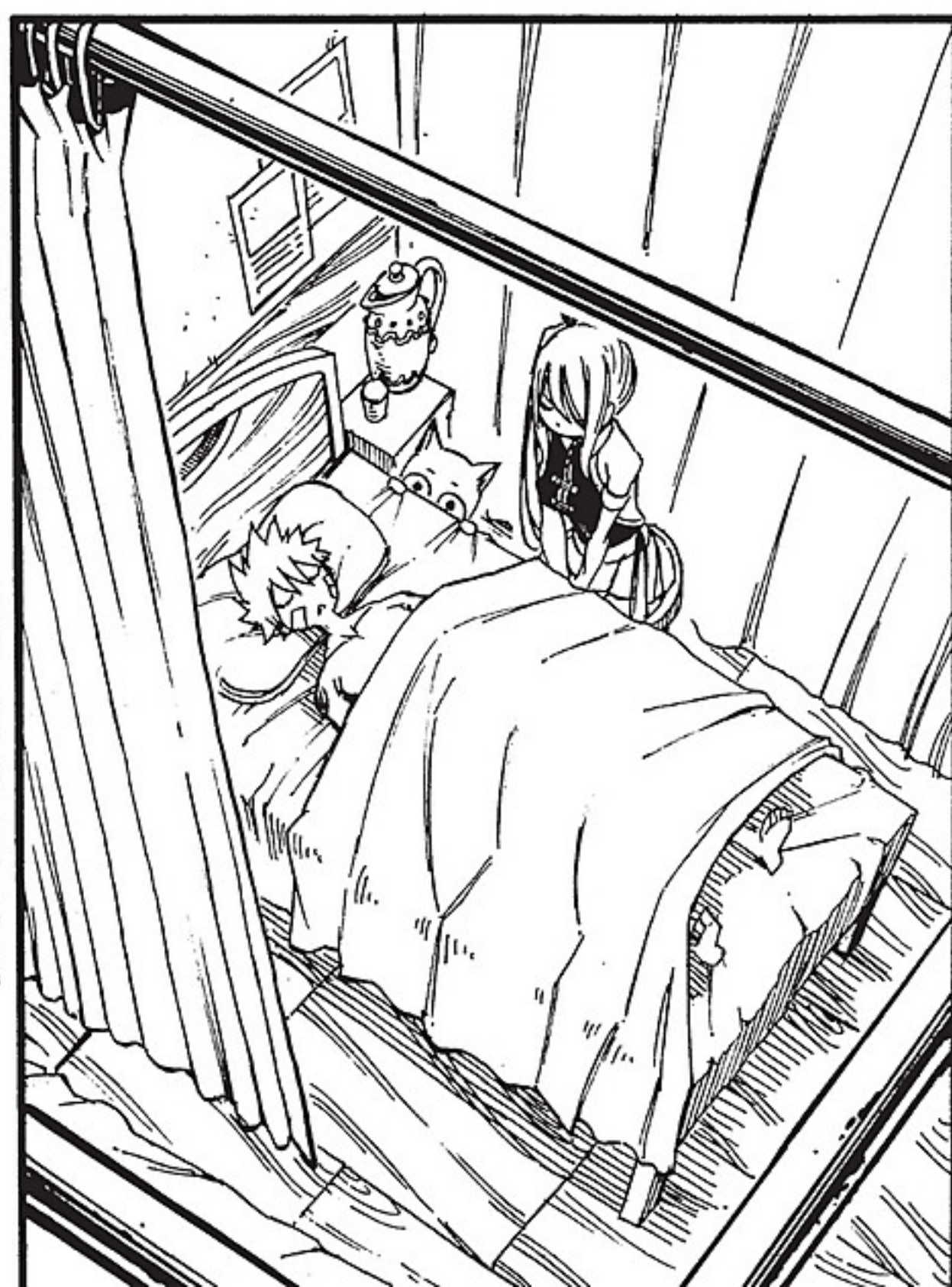
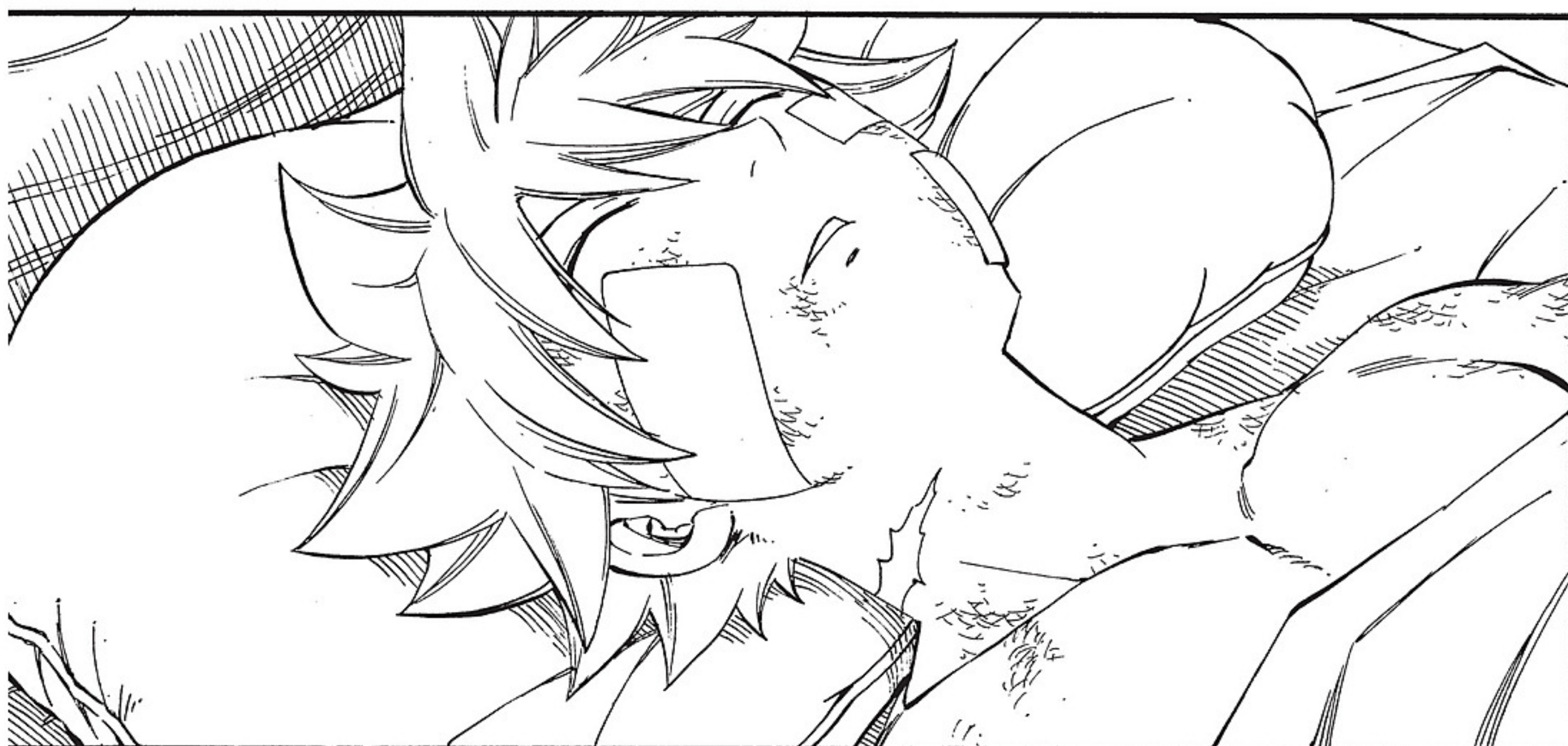




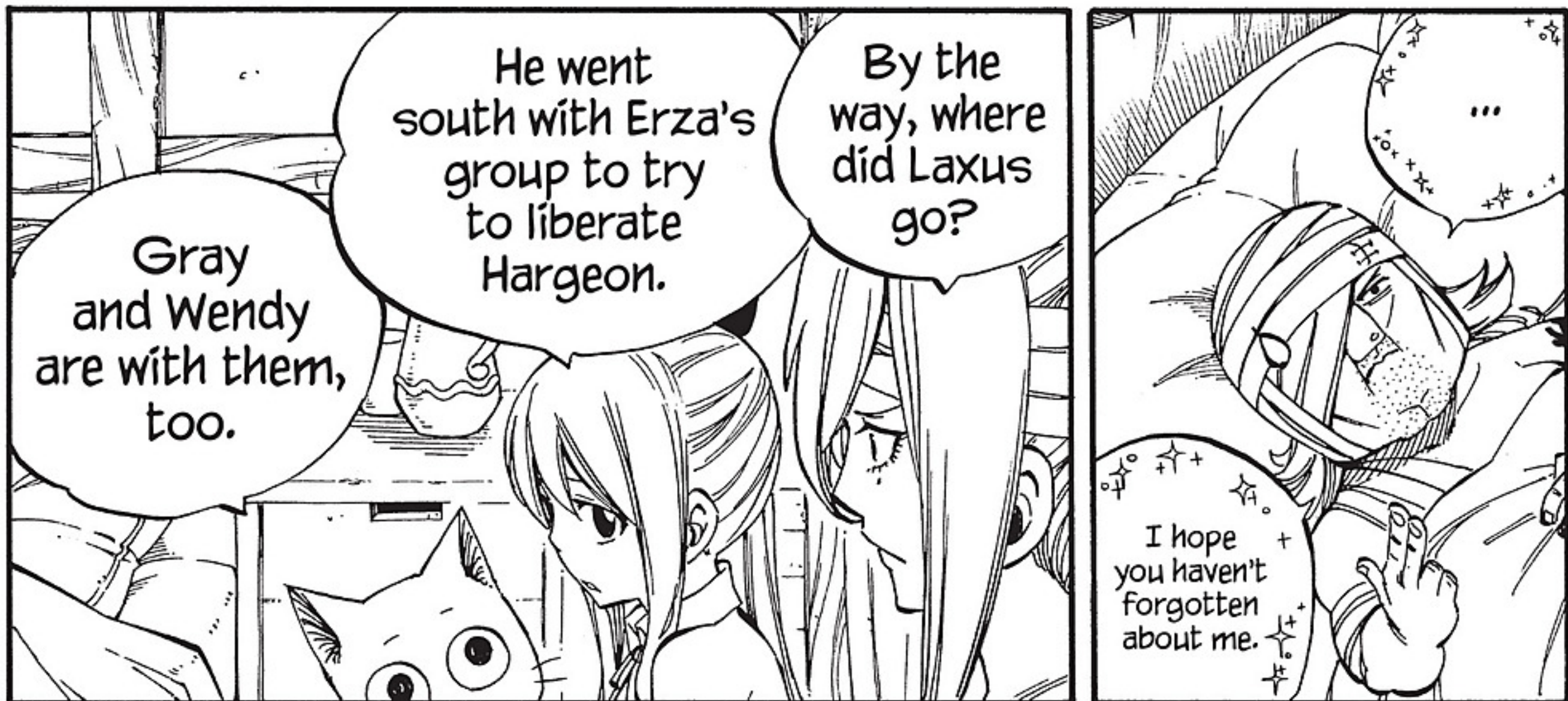
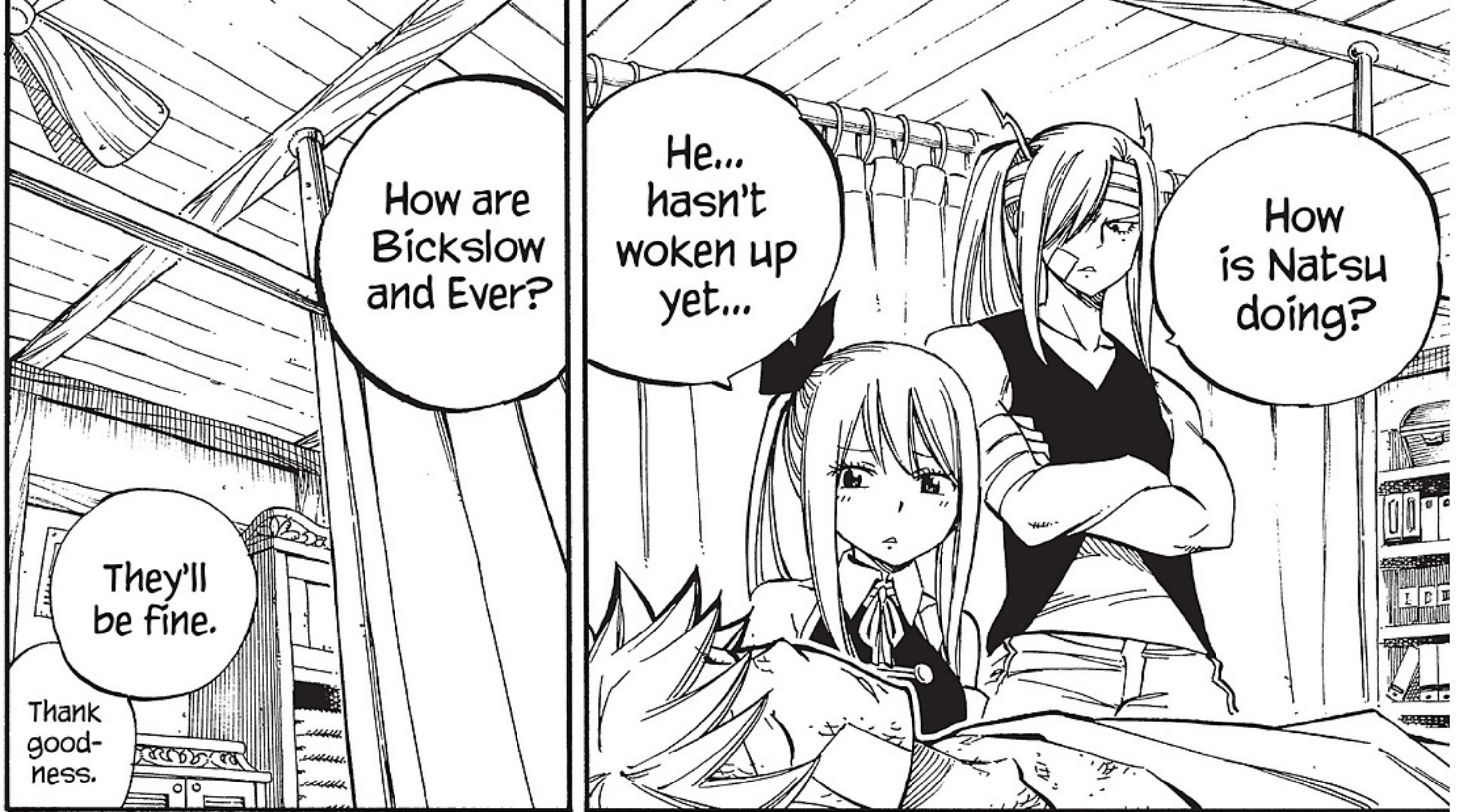




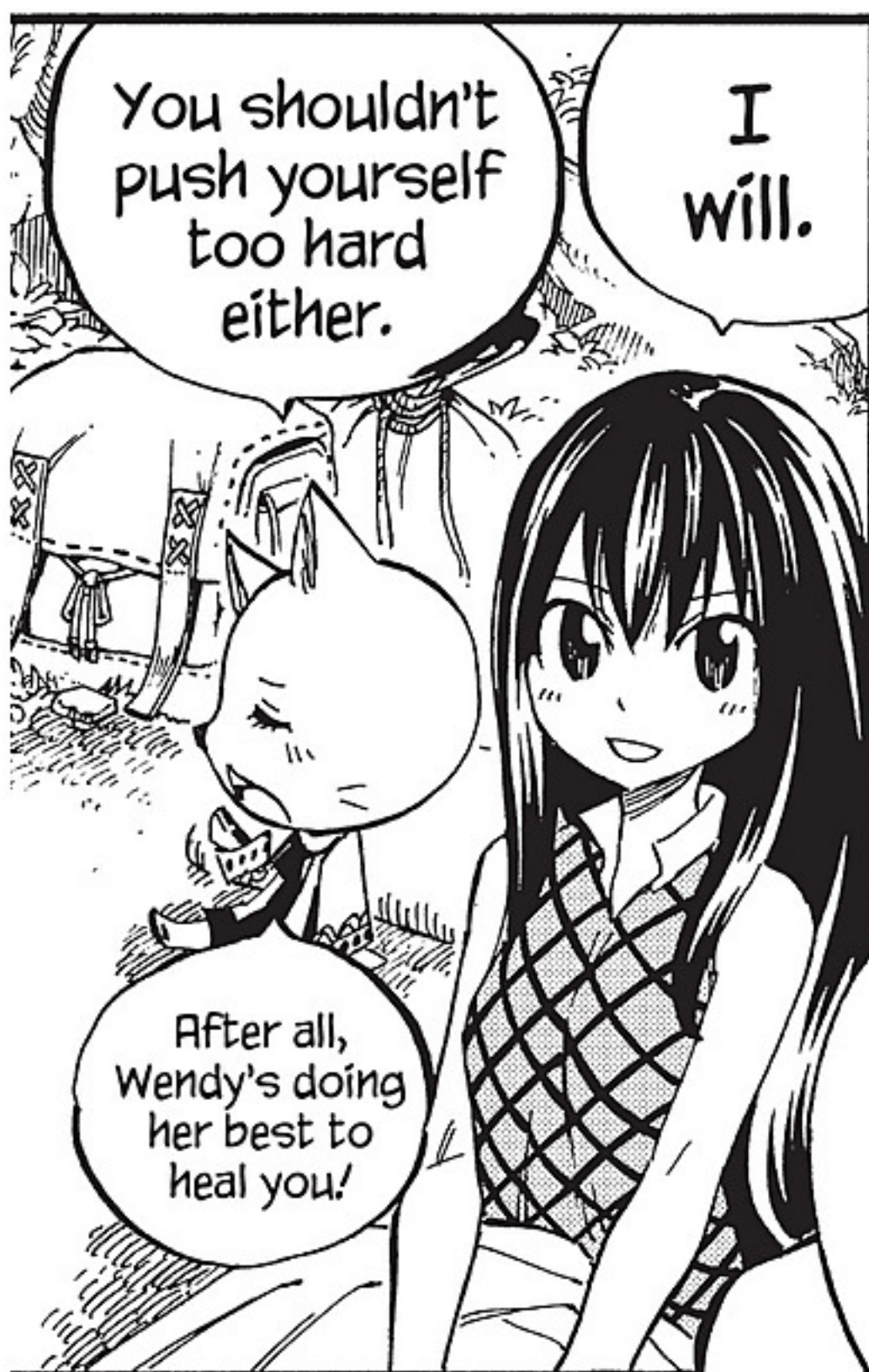
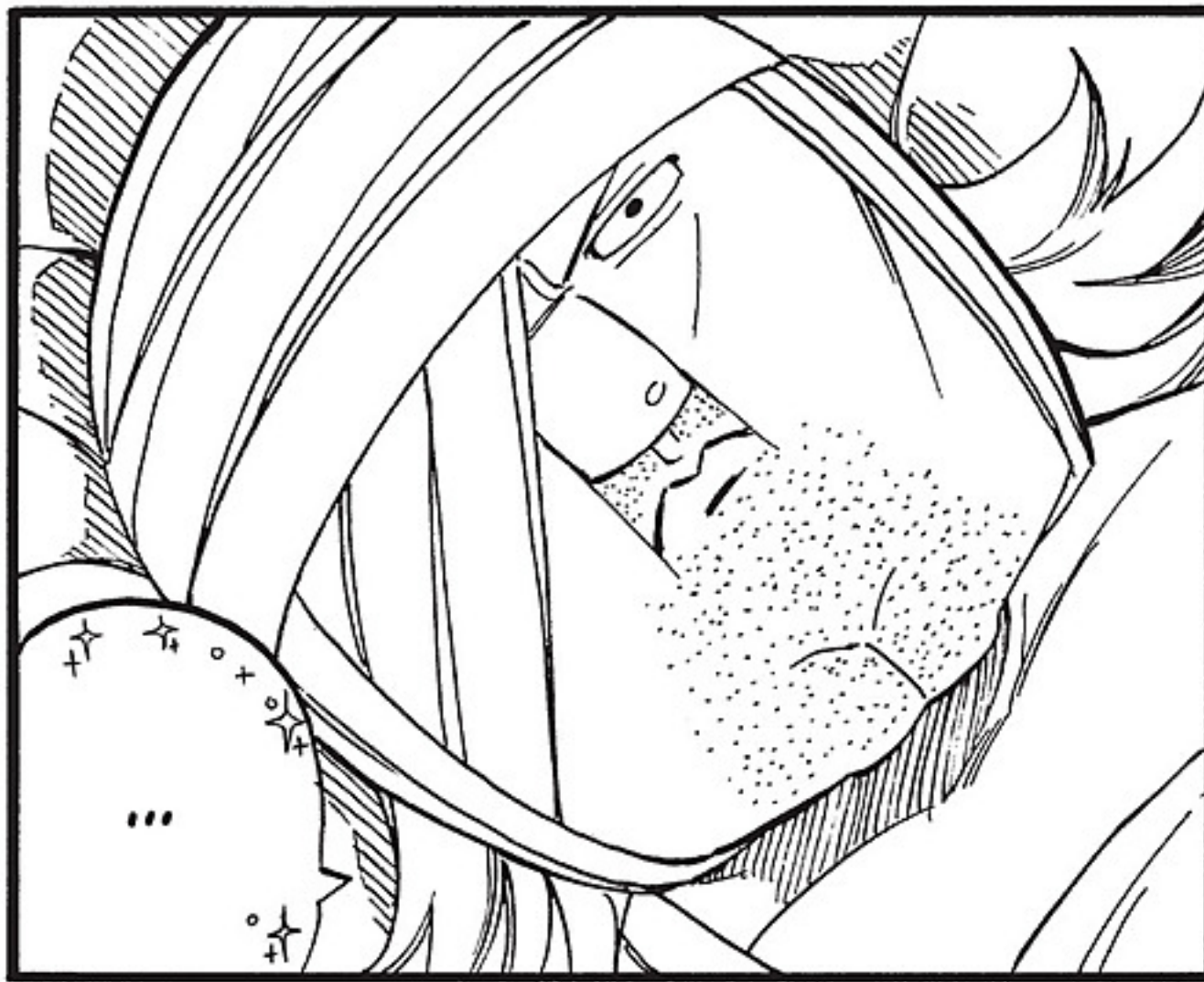








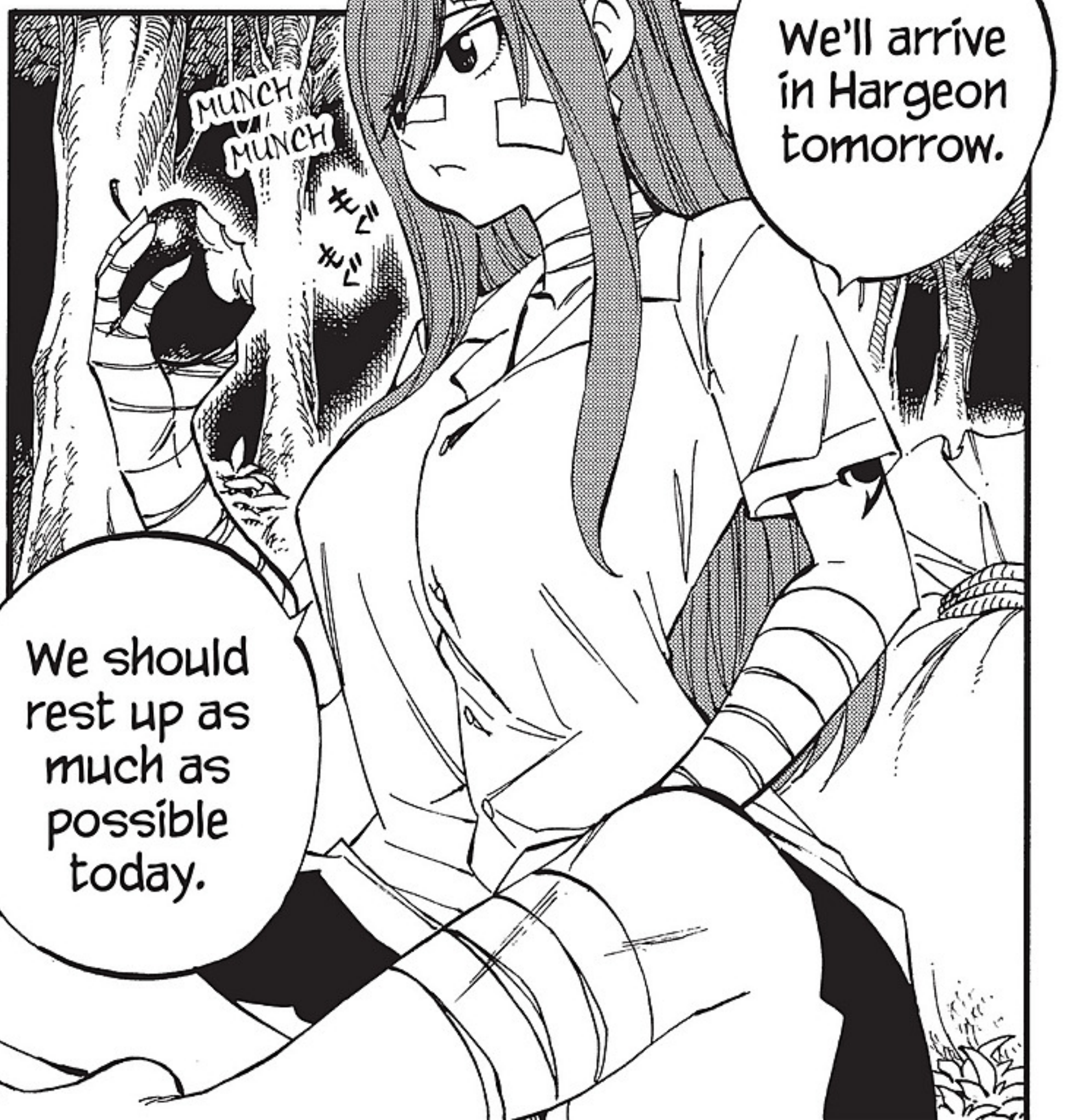




You shouldn't push yourself too hard either.

I will.

After all, Wendy's doing her best to heal you!

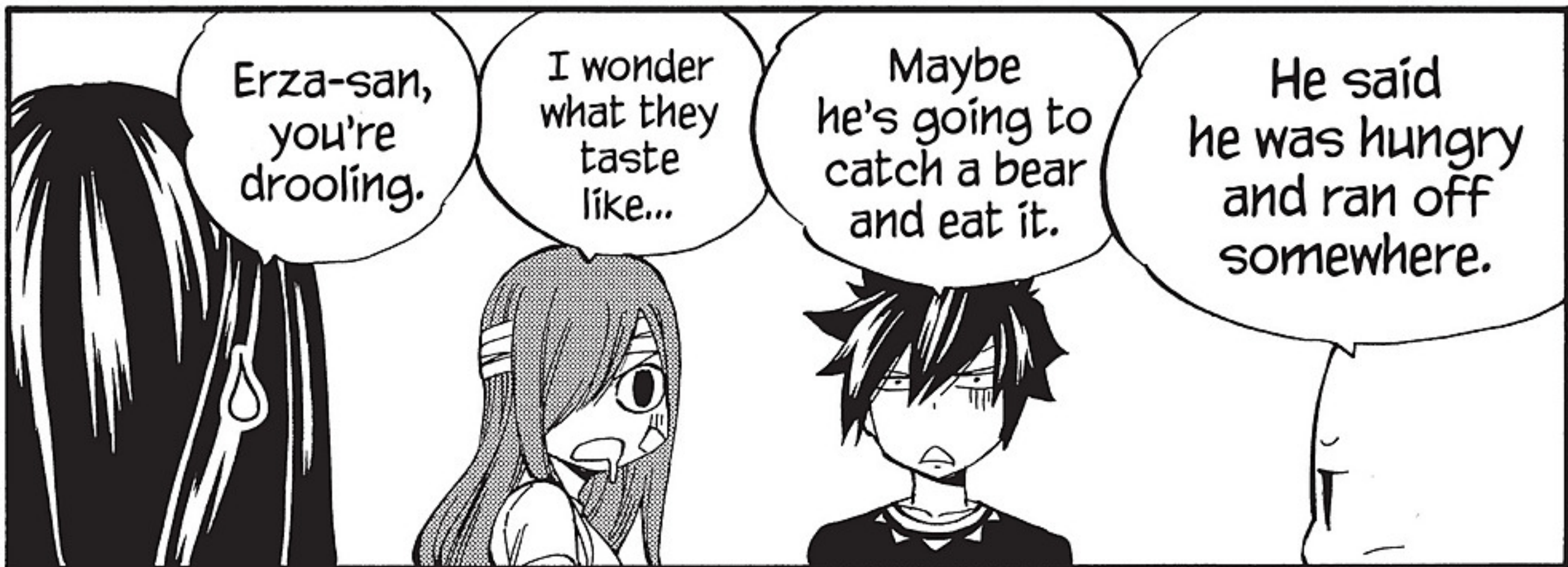


We'll arrive in Hargeon tomorrow.

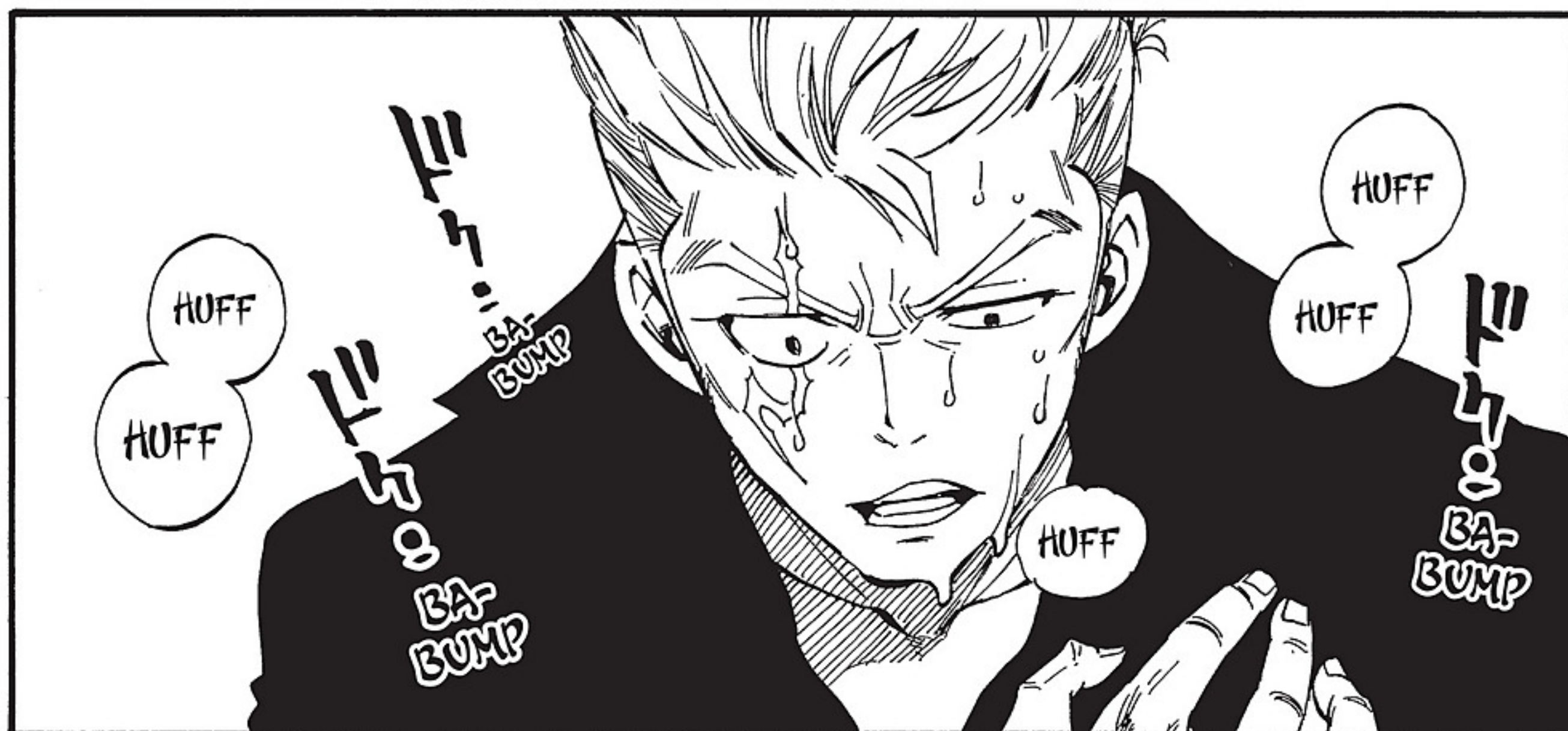
We should rest up as much as possible today.

MUNCH  
MUNCH

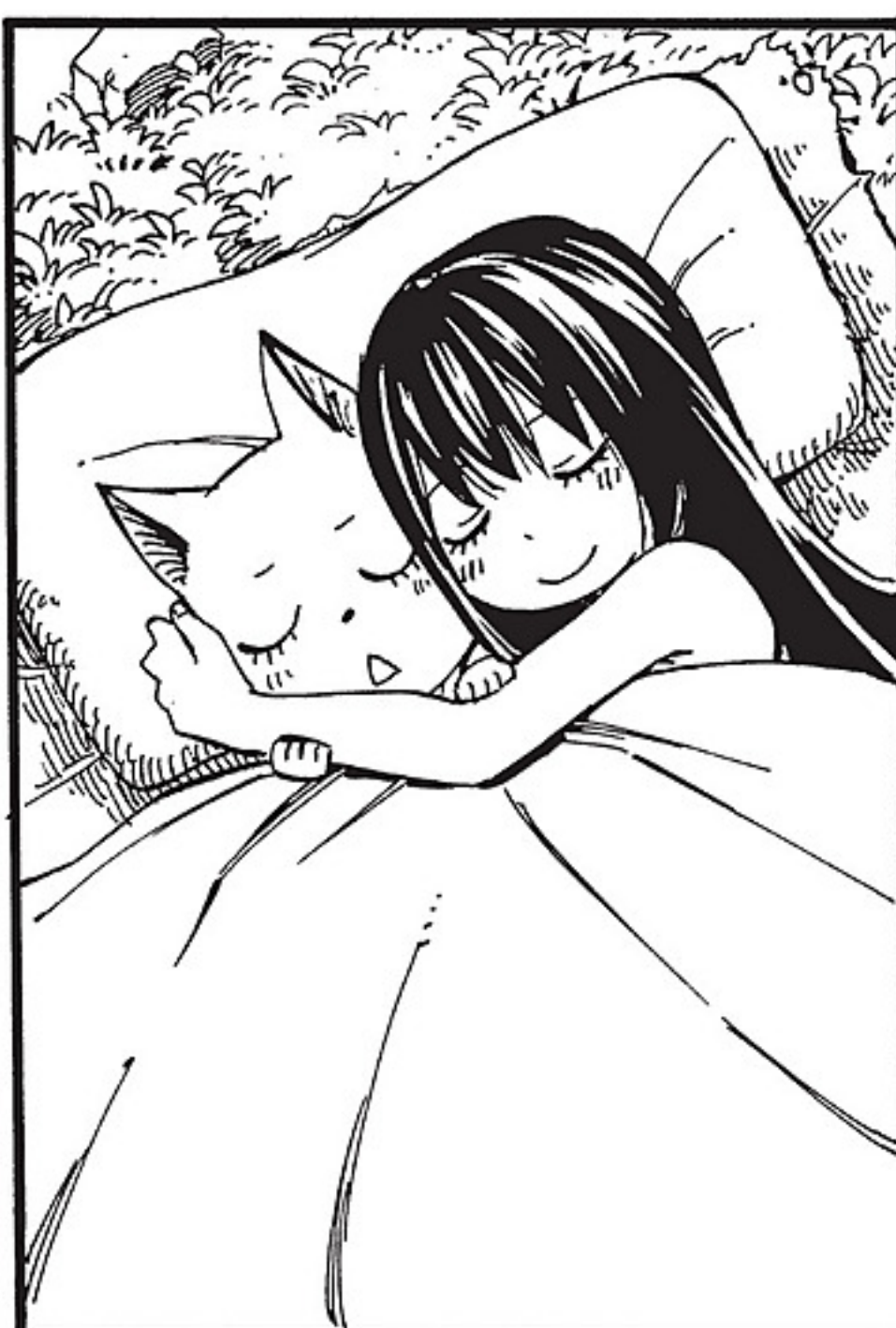
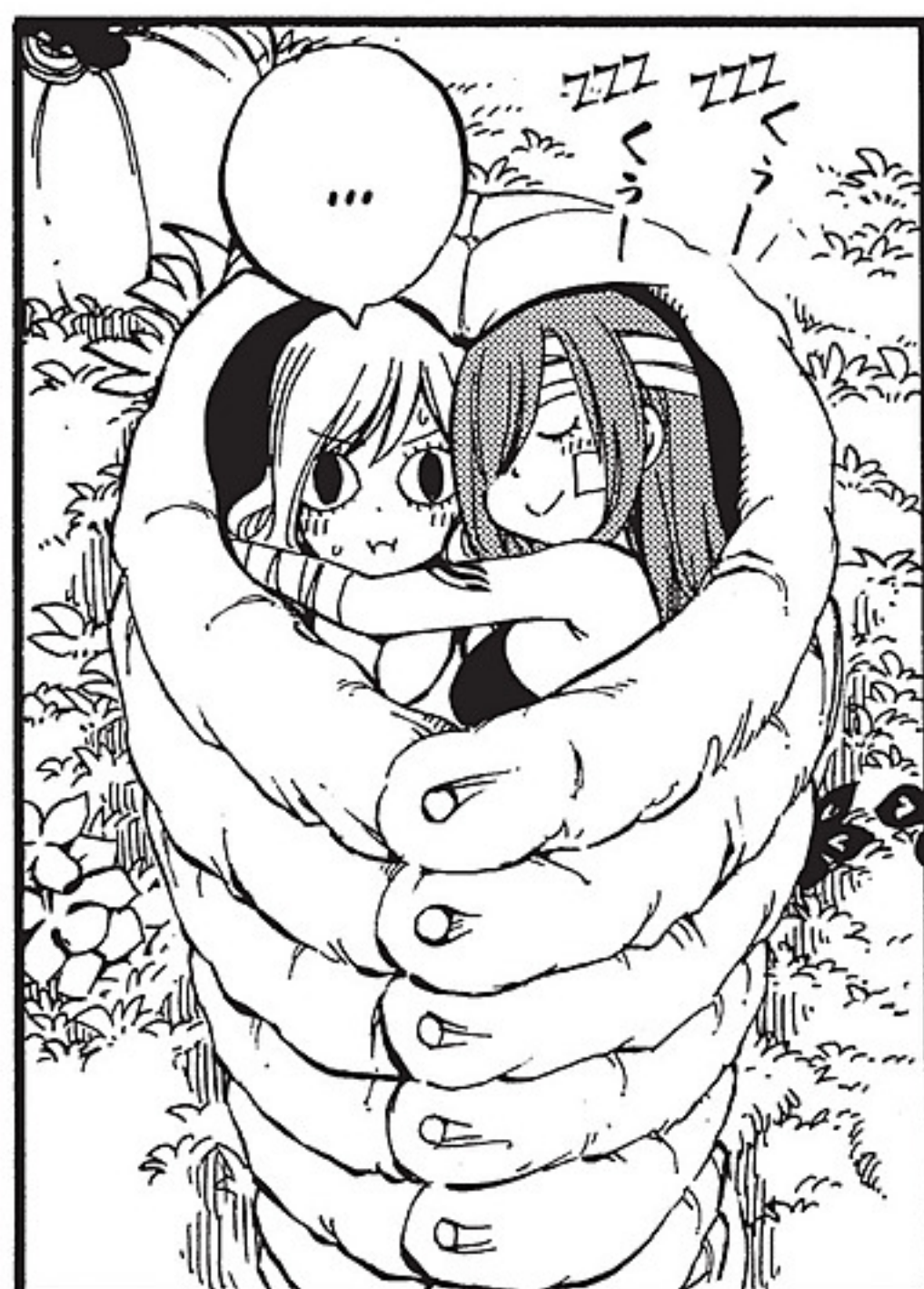
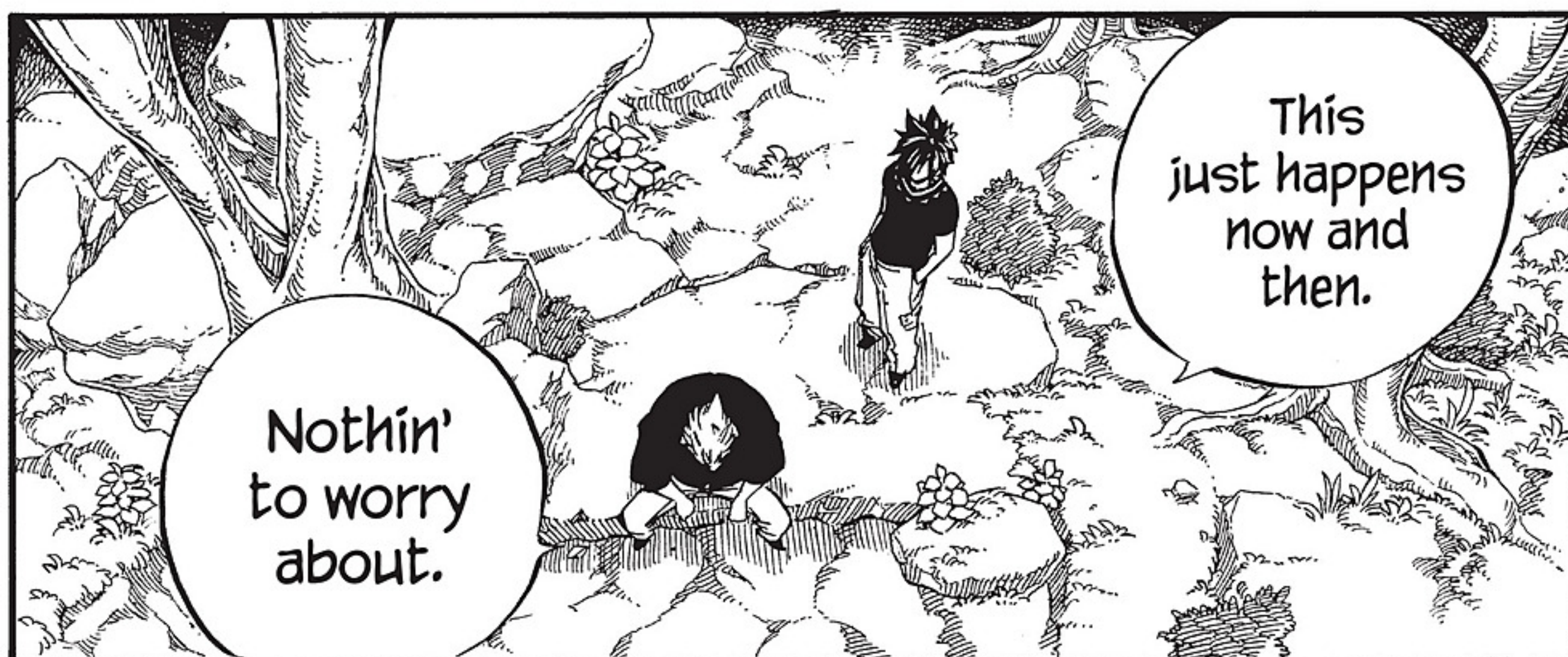
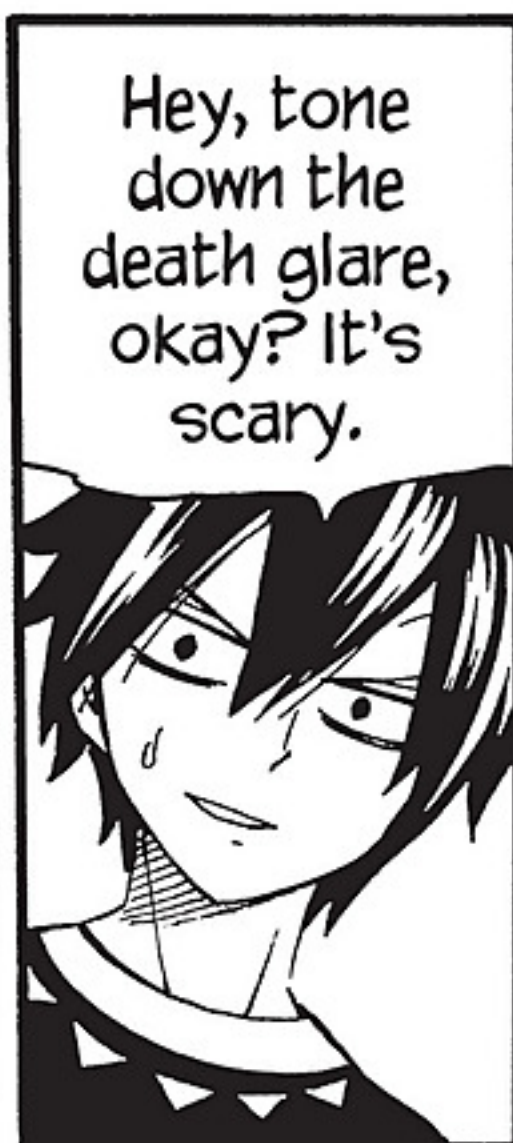




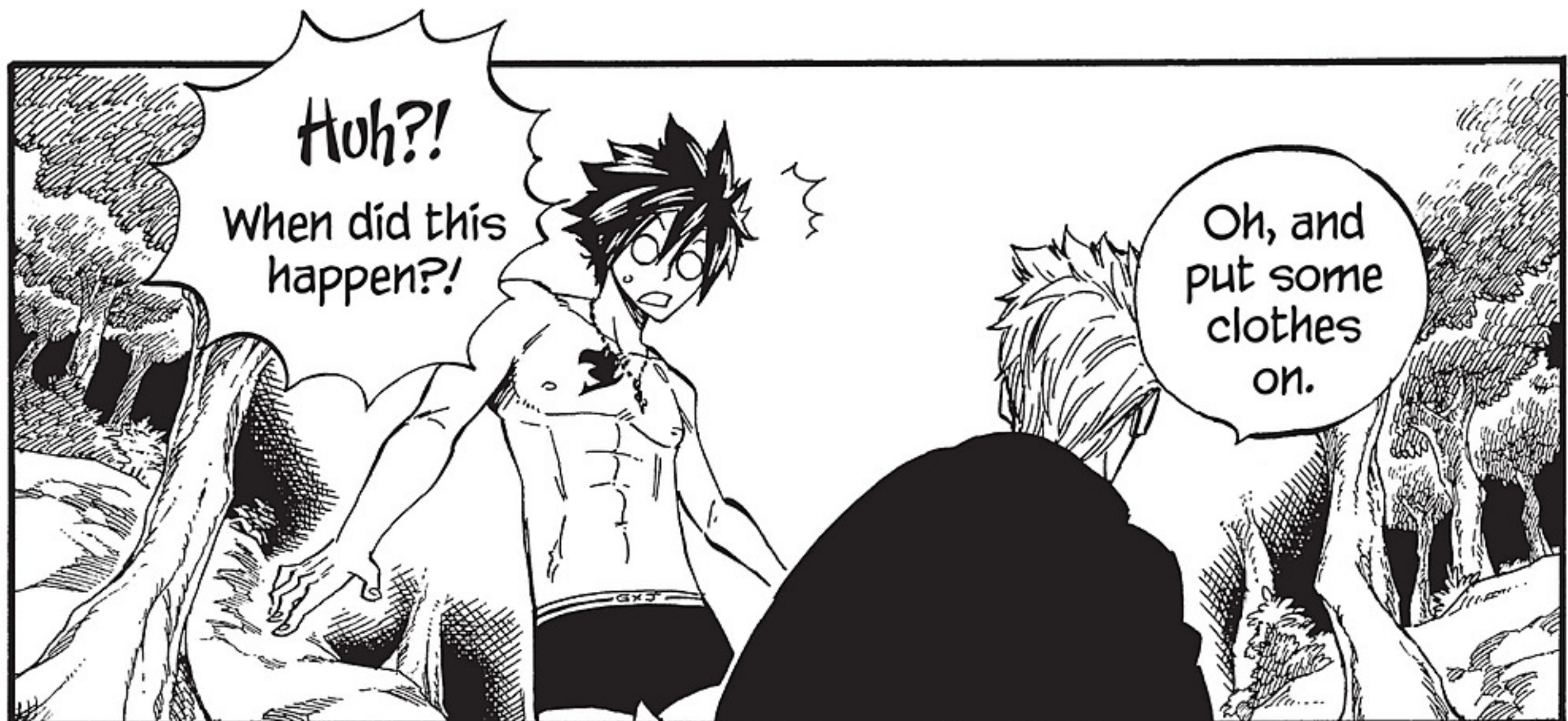
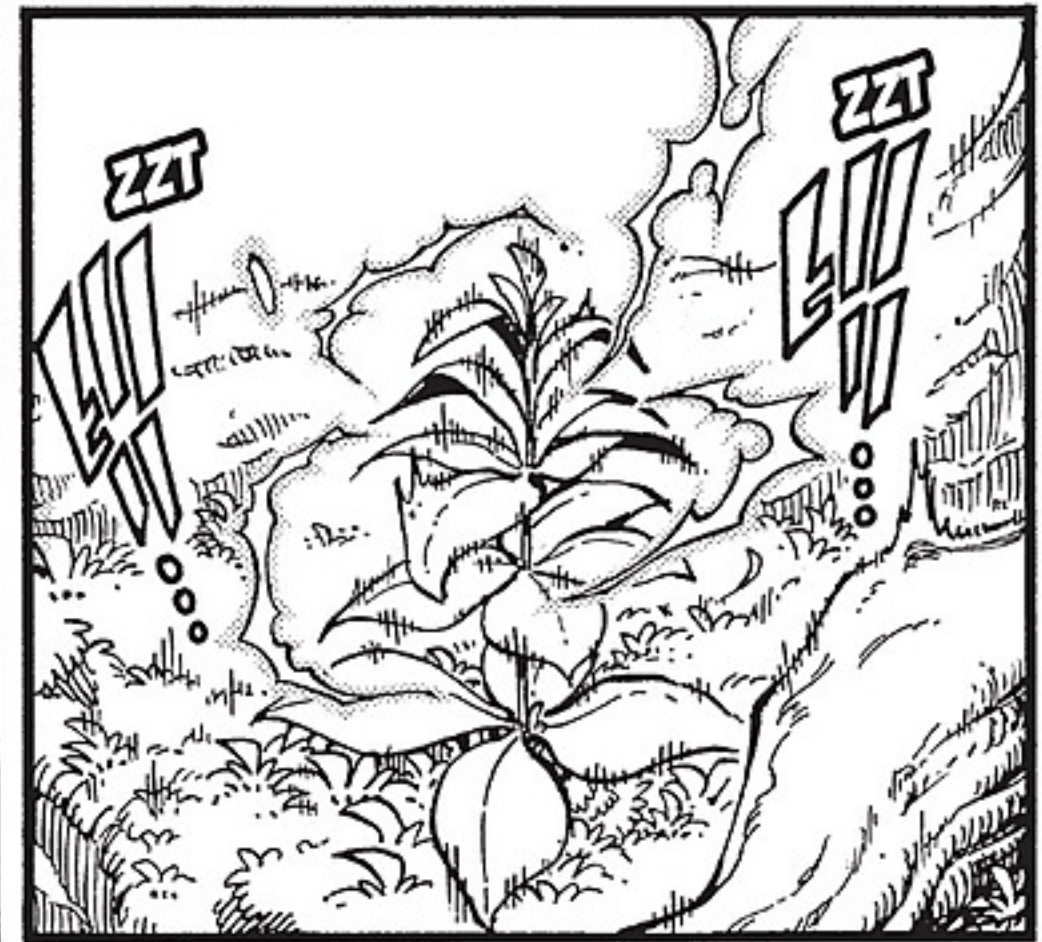




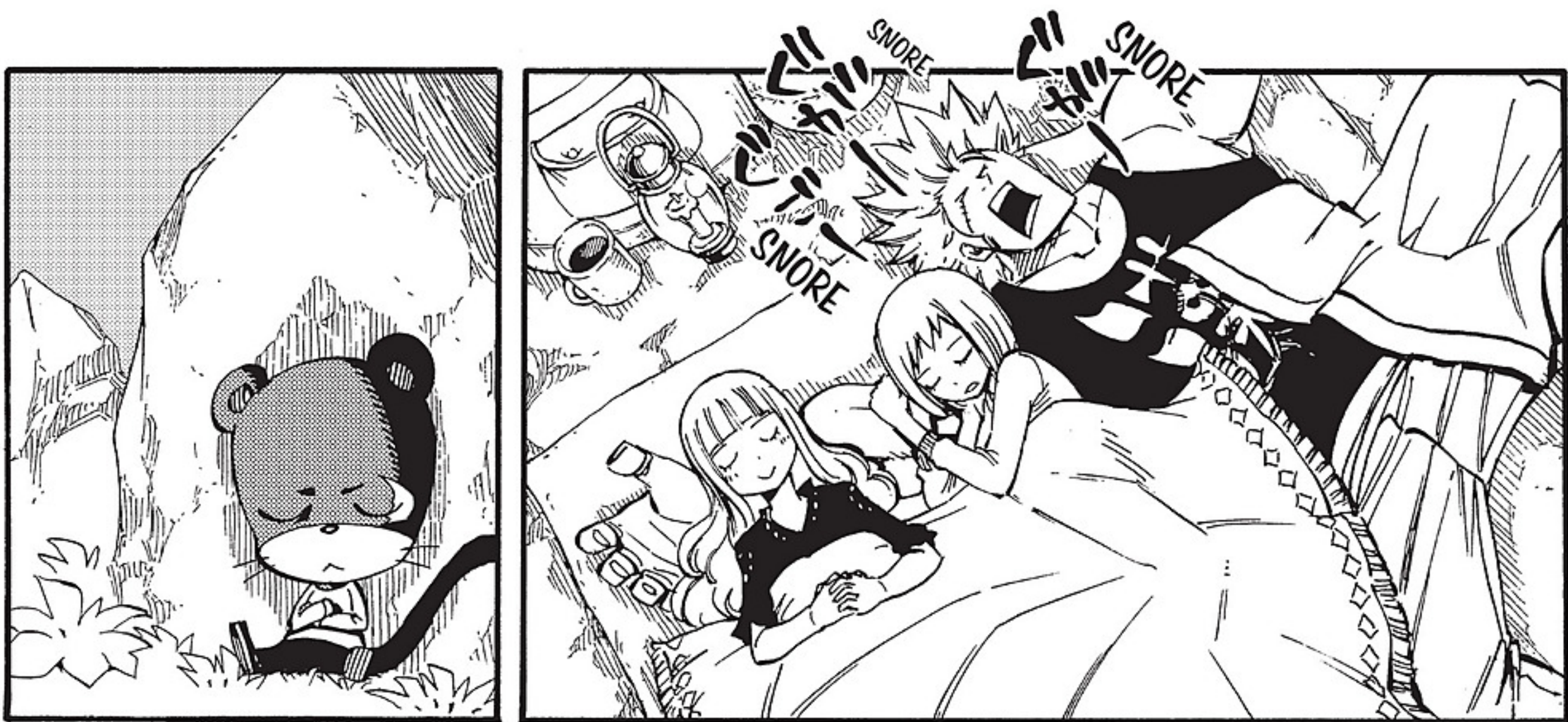
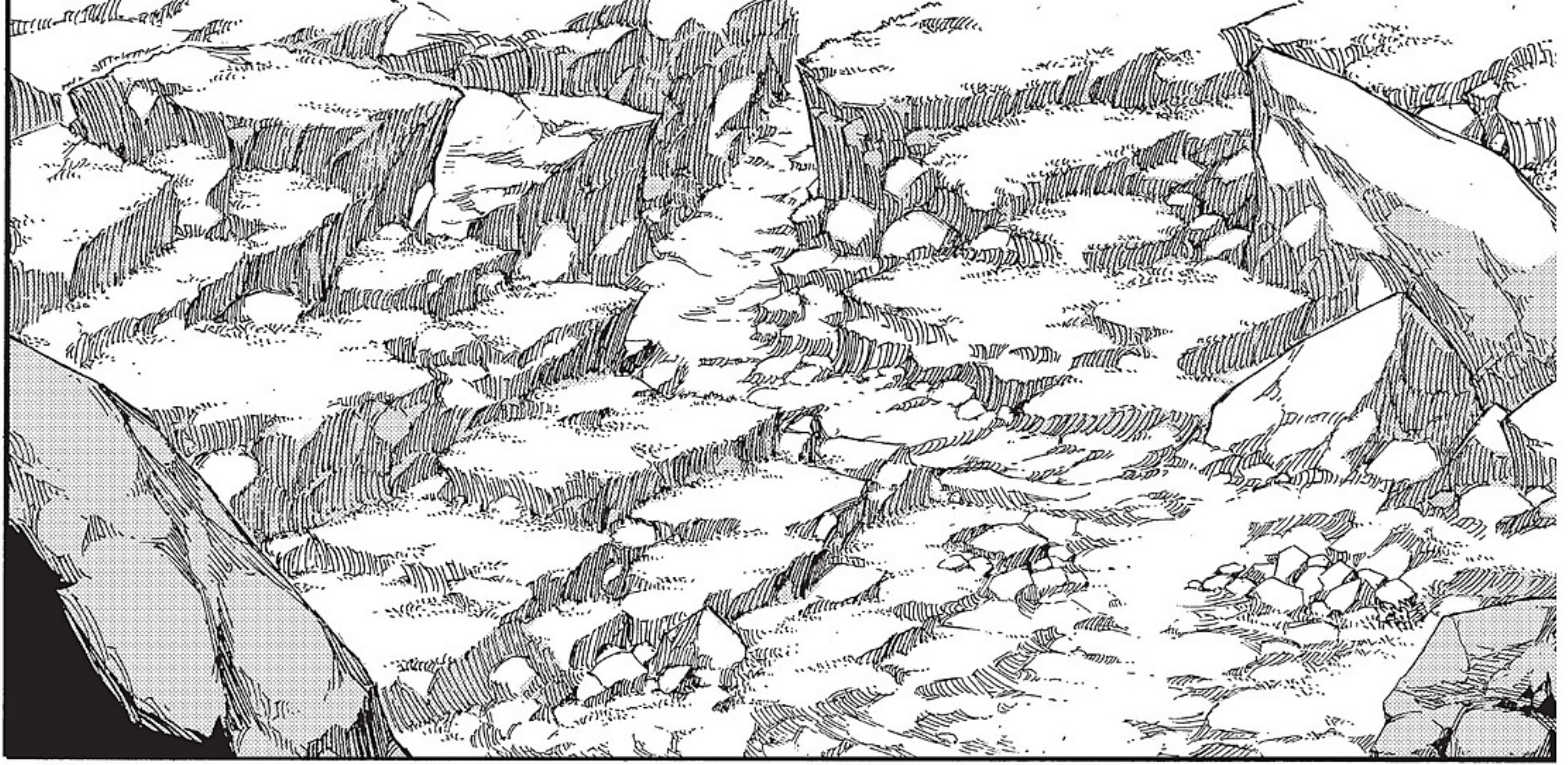




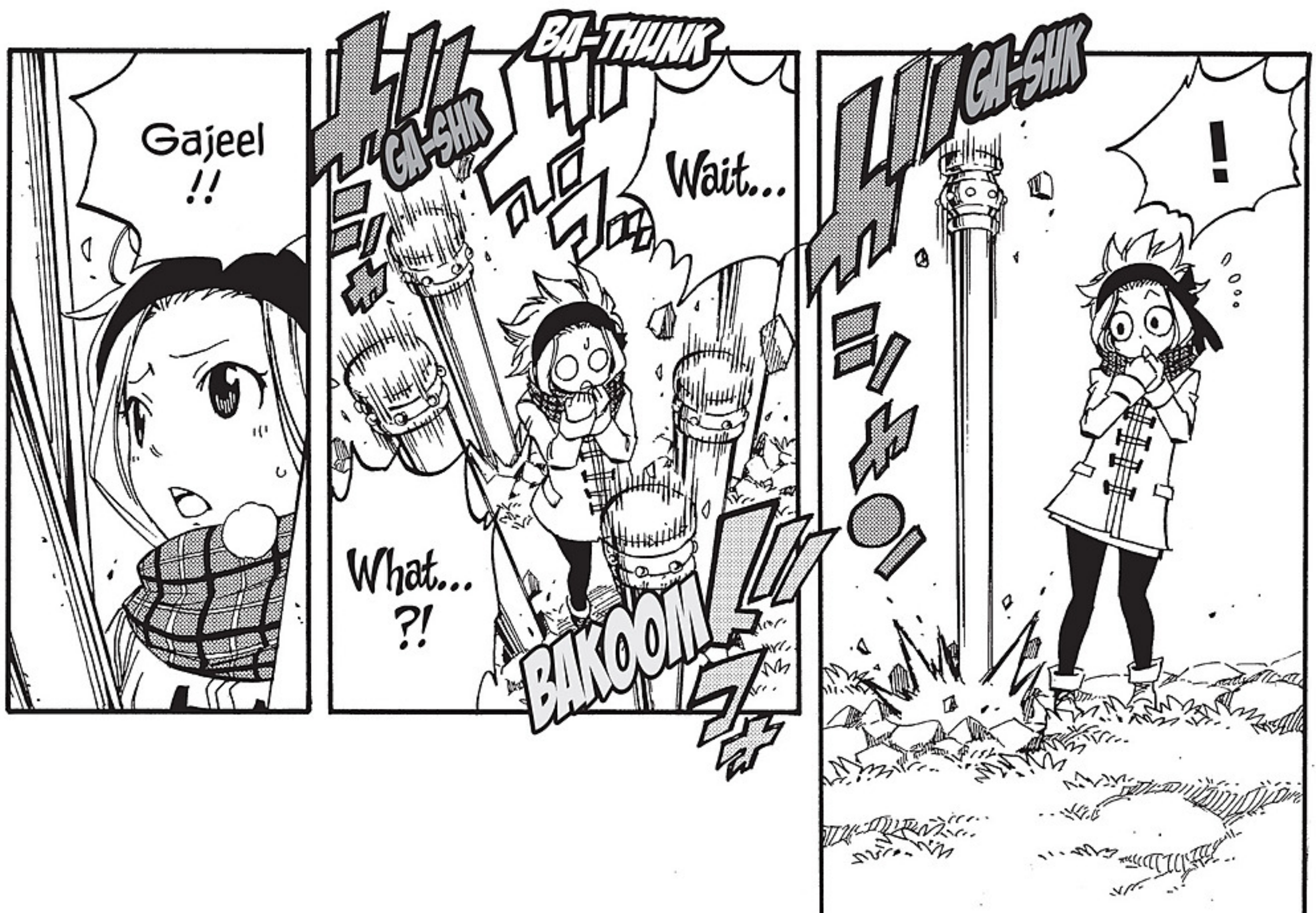
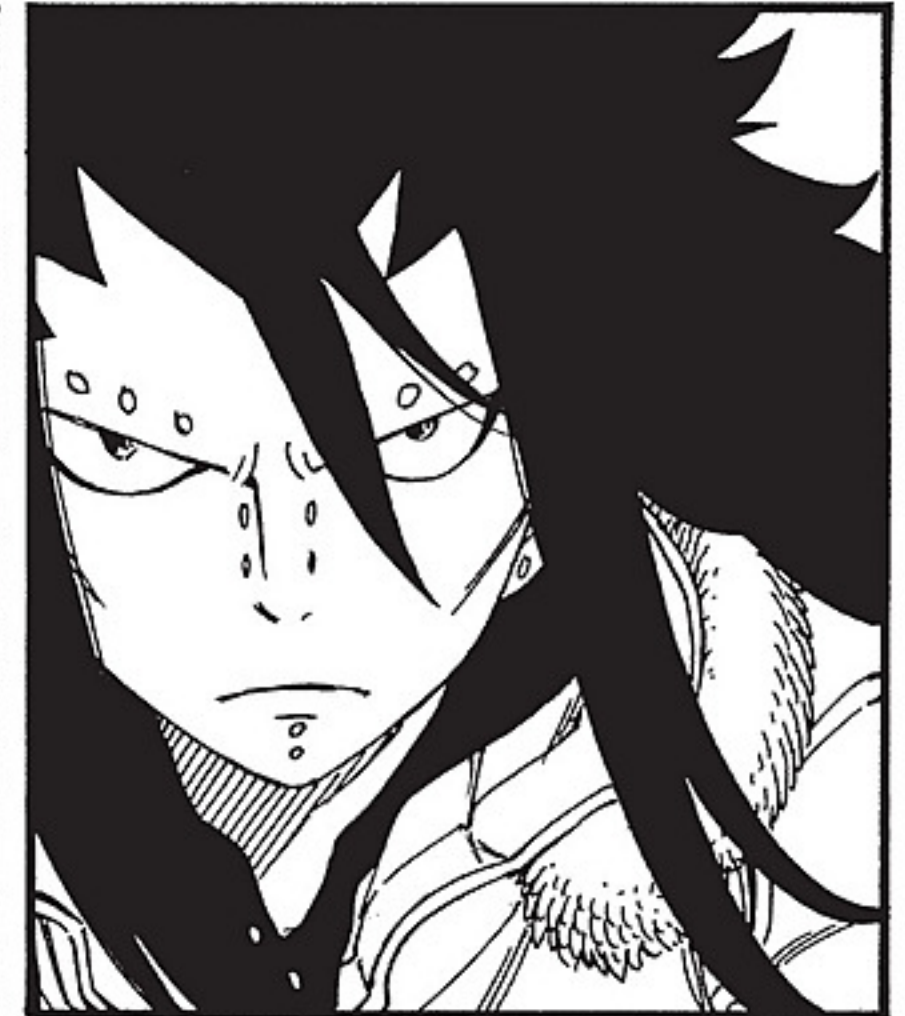
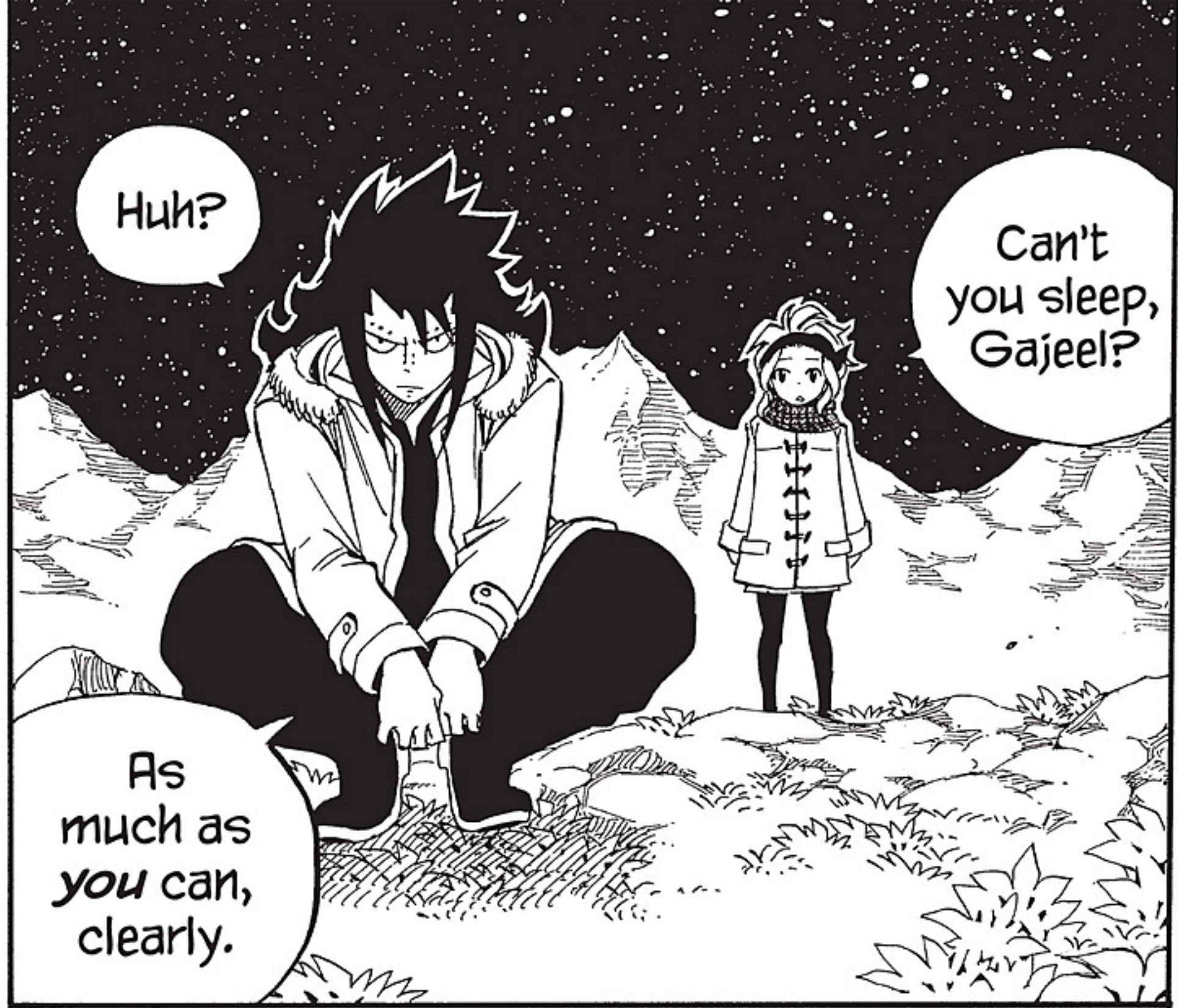




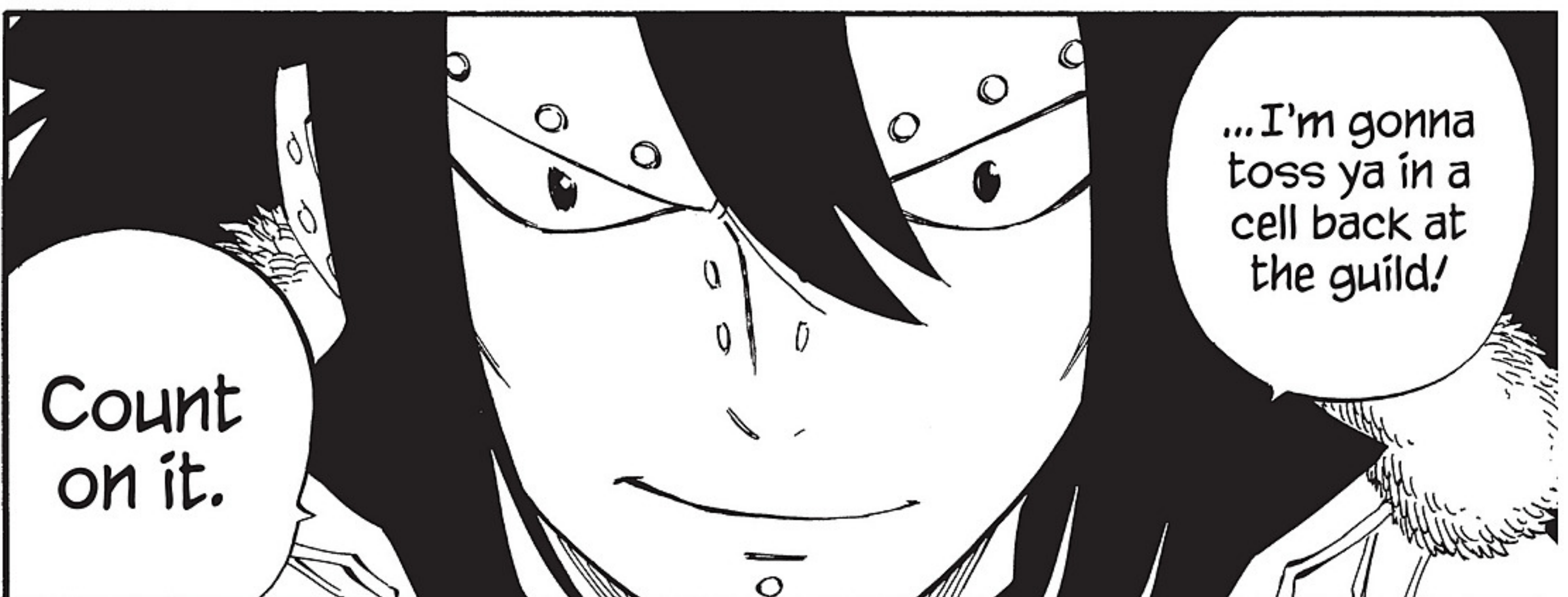
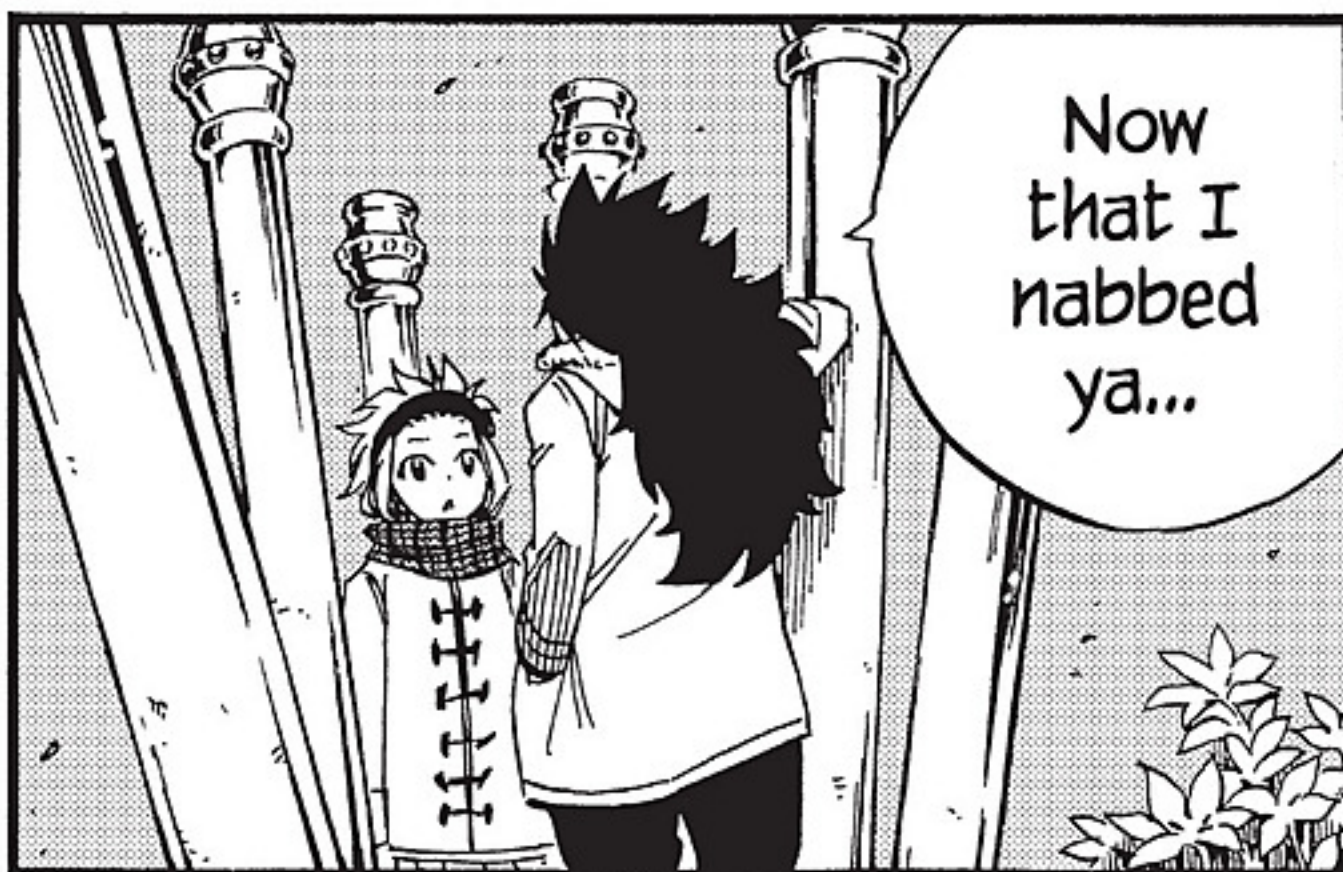
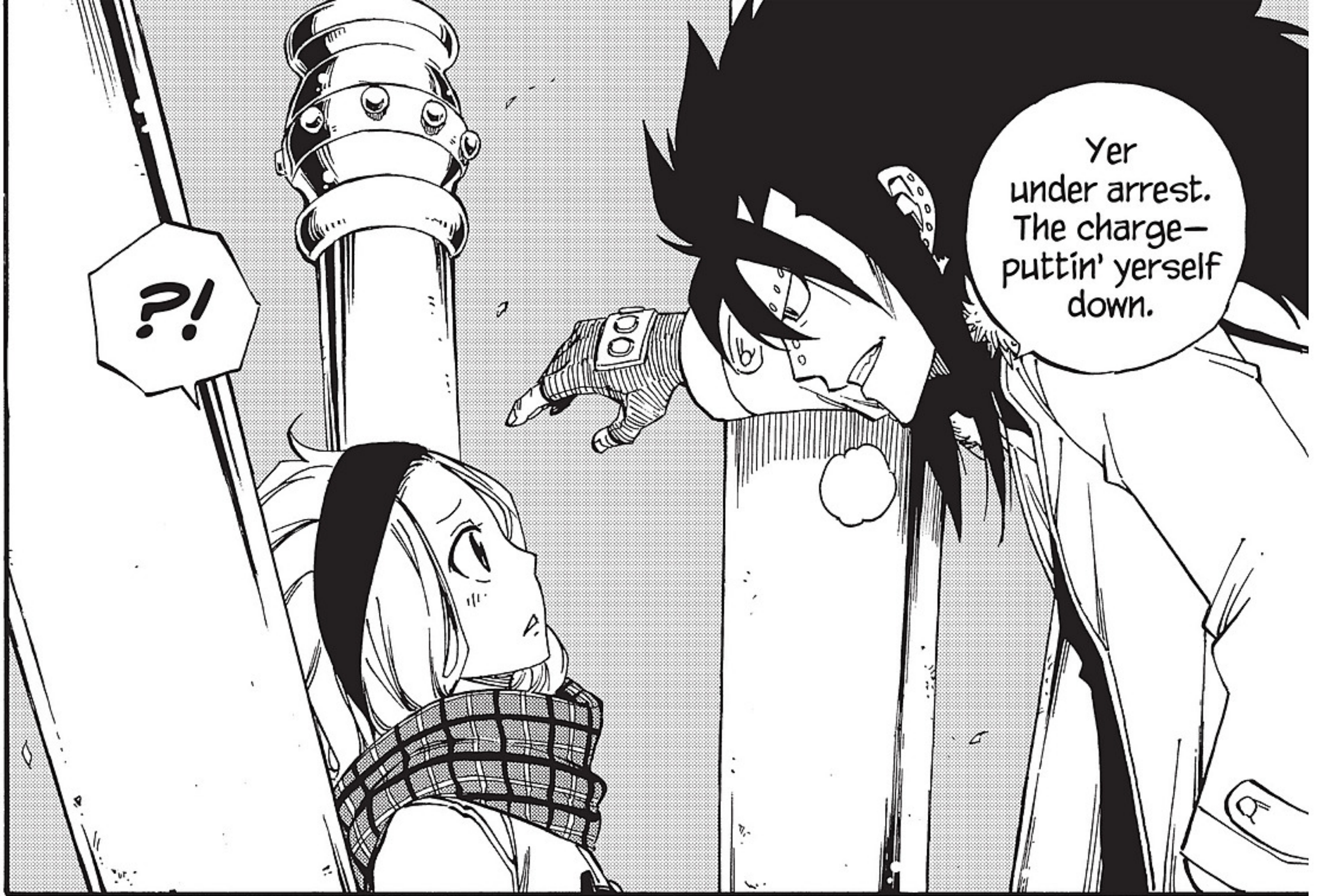




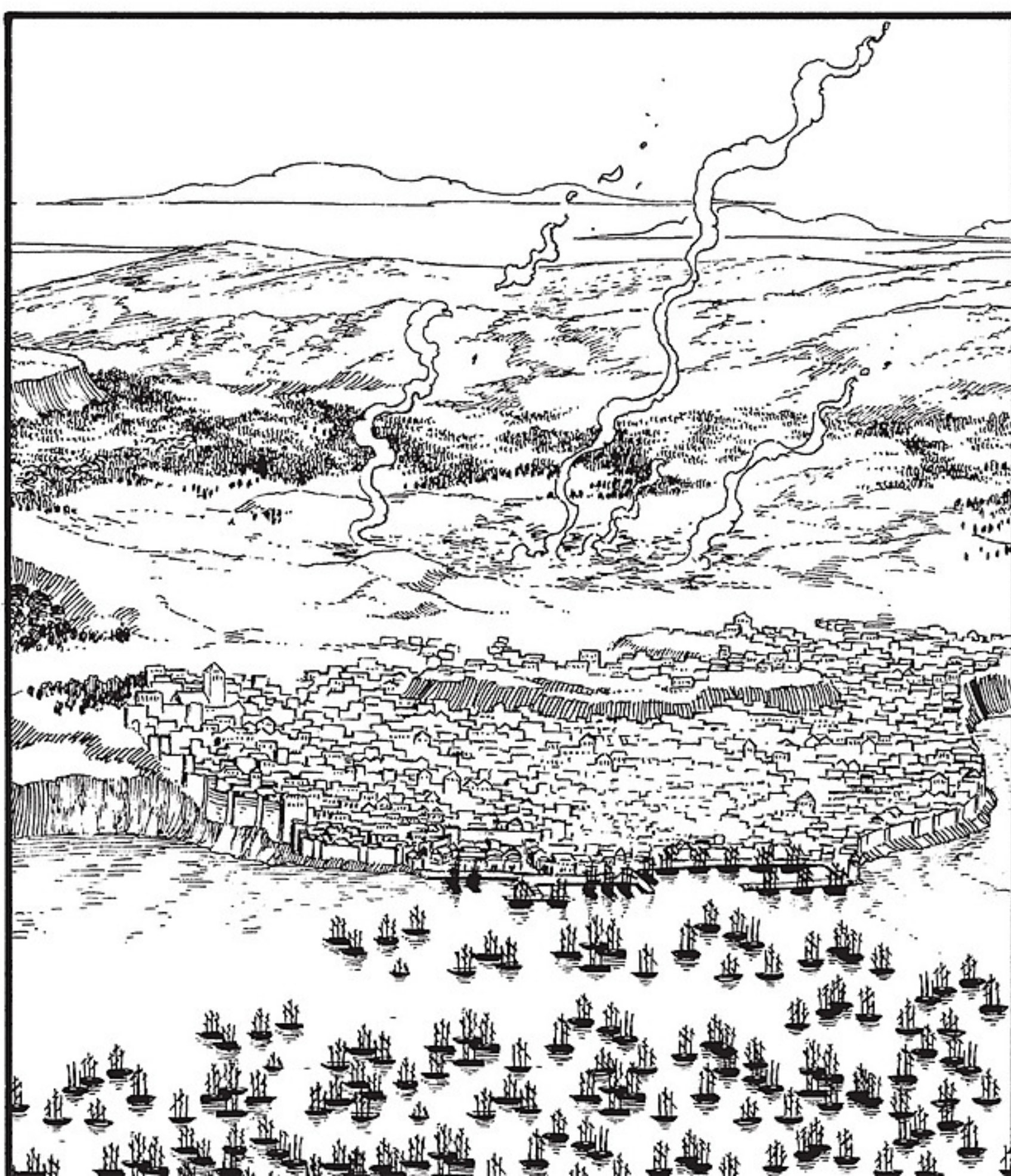
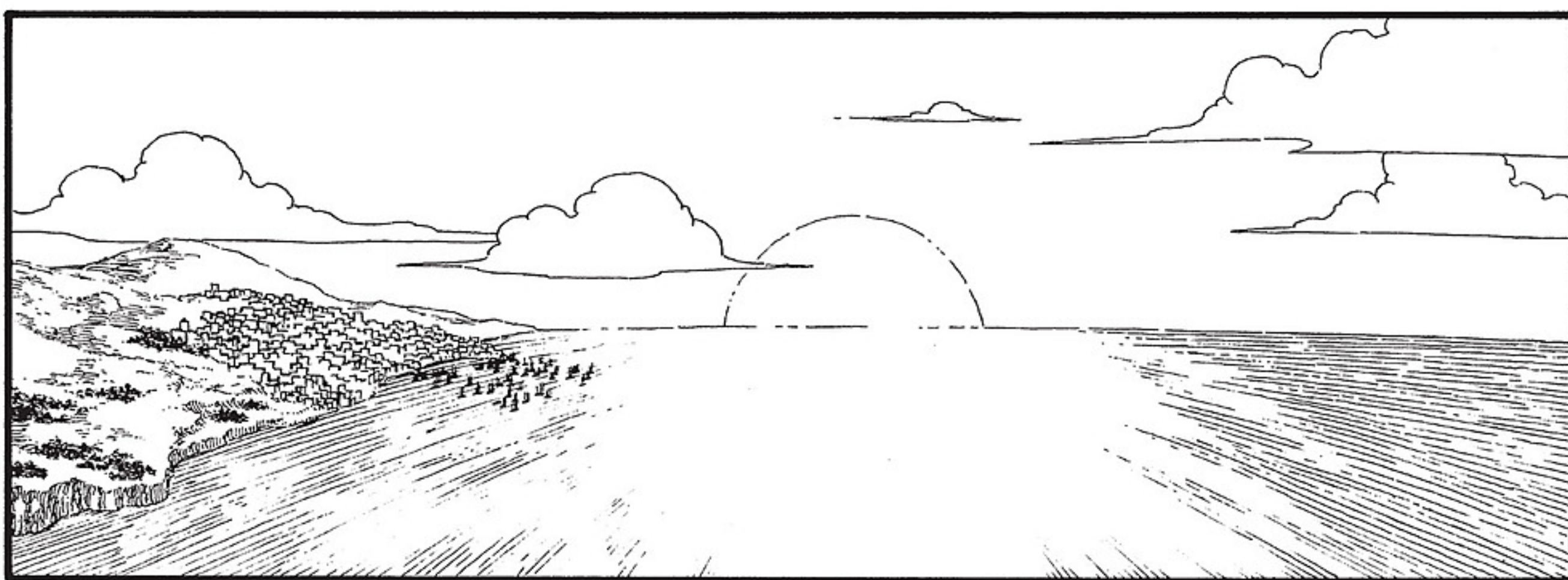
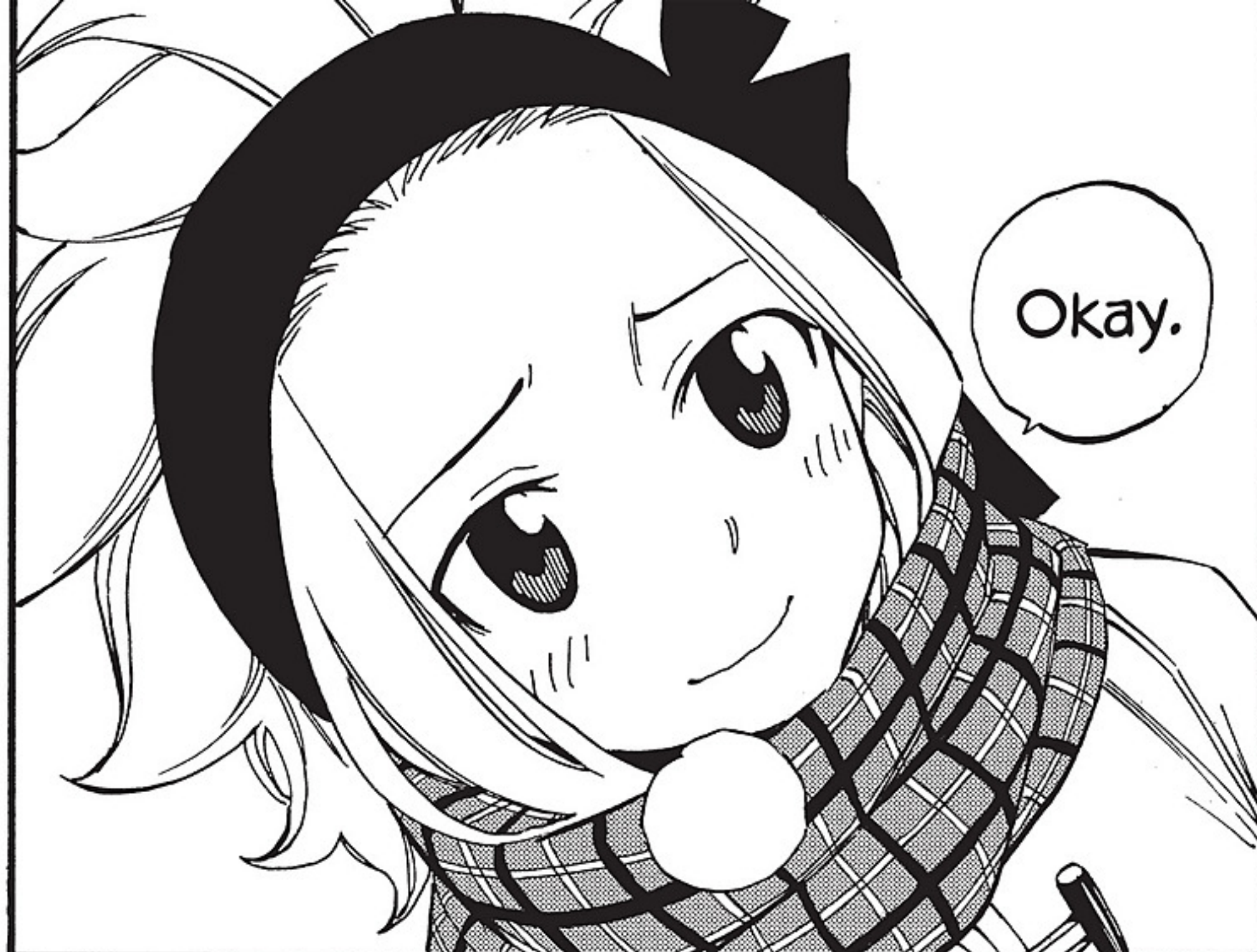














Southern  
Fiore, the  
battle to  
liberate  
Hargeon.

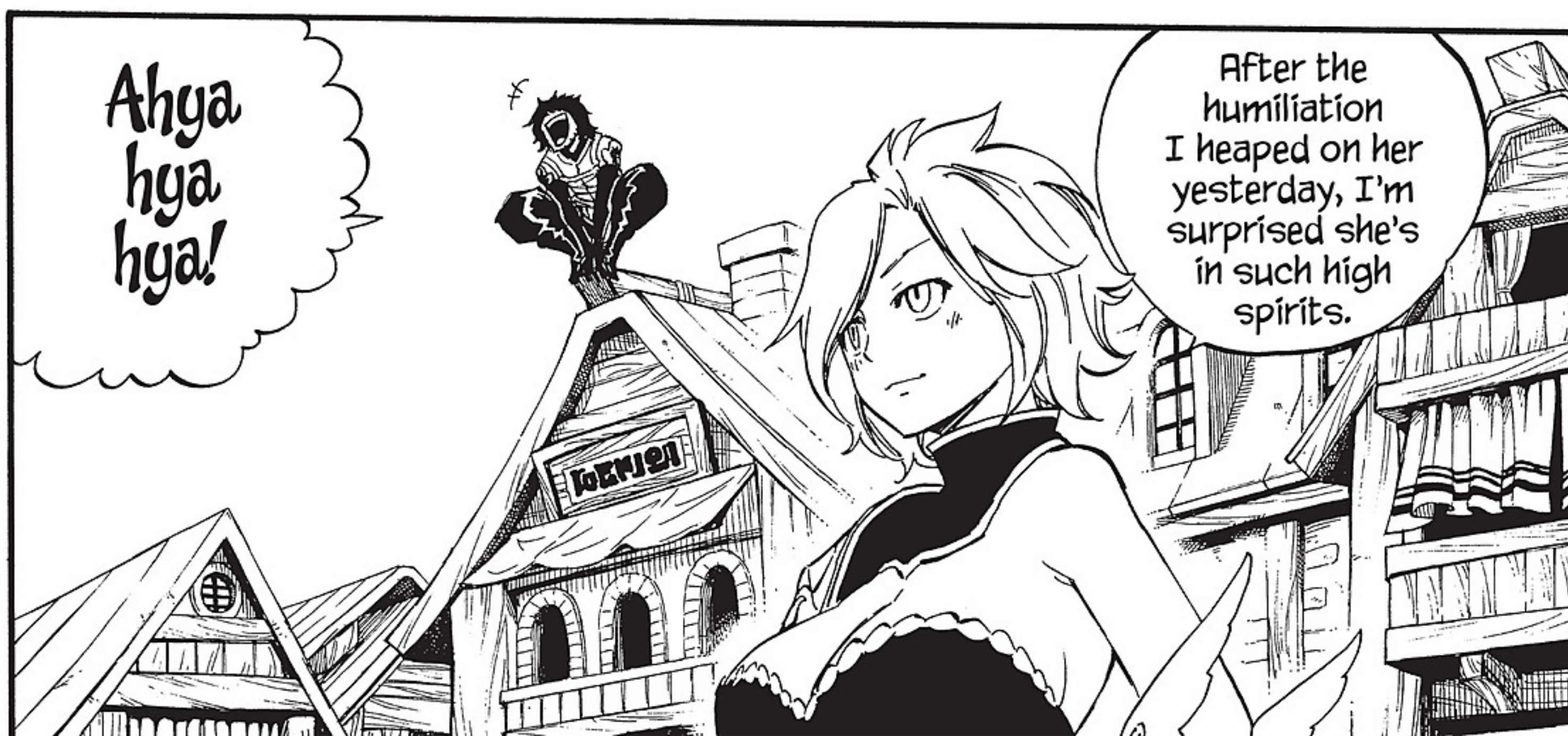


Forward  
!!!!

We *will*  
take back  
Hargeon  
today!!

Ahya  
hya  
hya!

After the  
humiliation  
I heaped on her  
yesterday, I'm  
surprised she's  
in such high  
spirits.

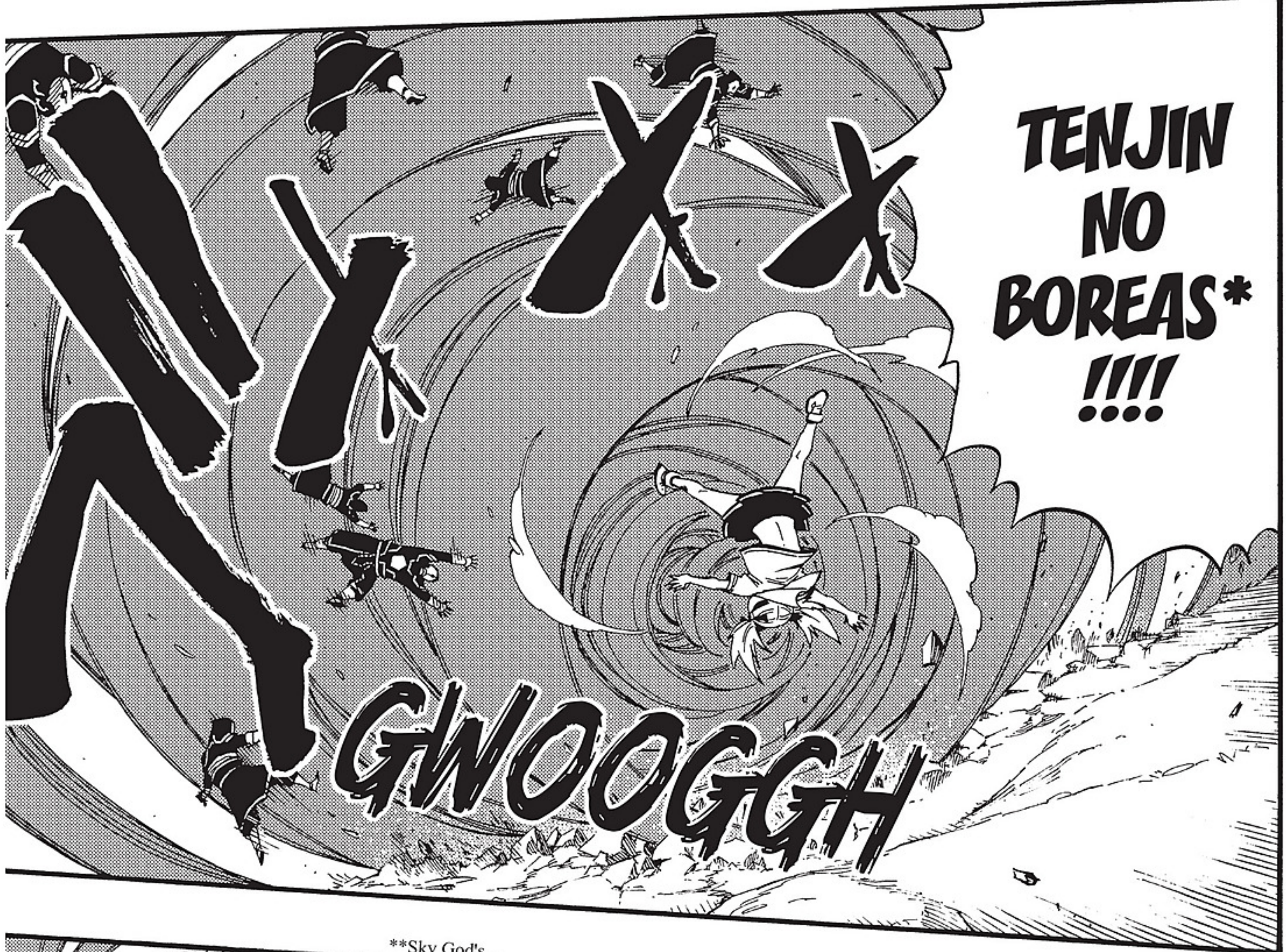






But  
today...  
perhaps  
I'll choose  
someone  
else.

\*Sky God's Boreas!!!!



TENJIN  
NO\*\*  
...



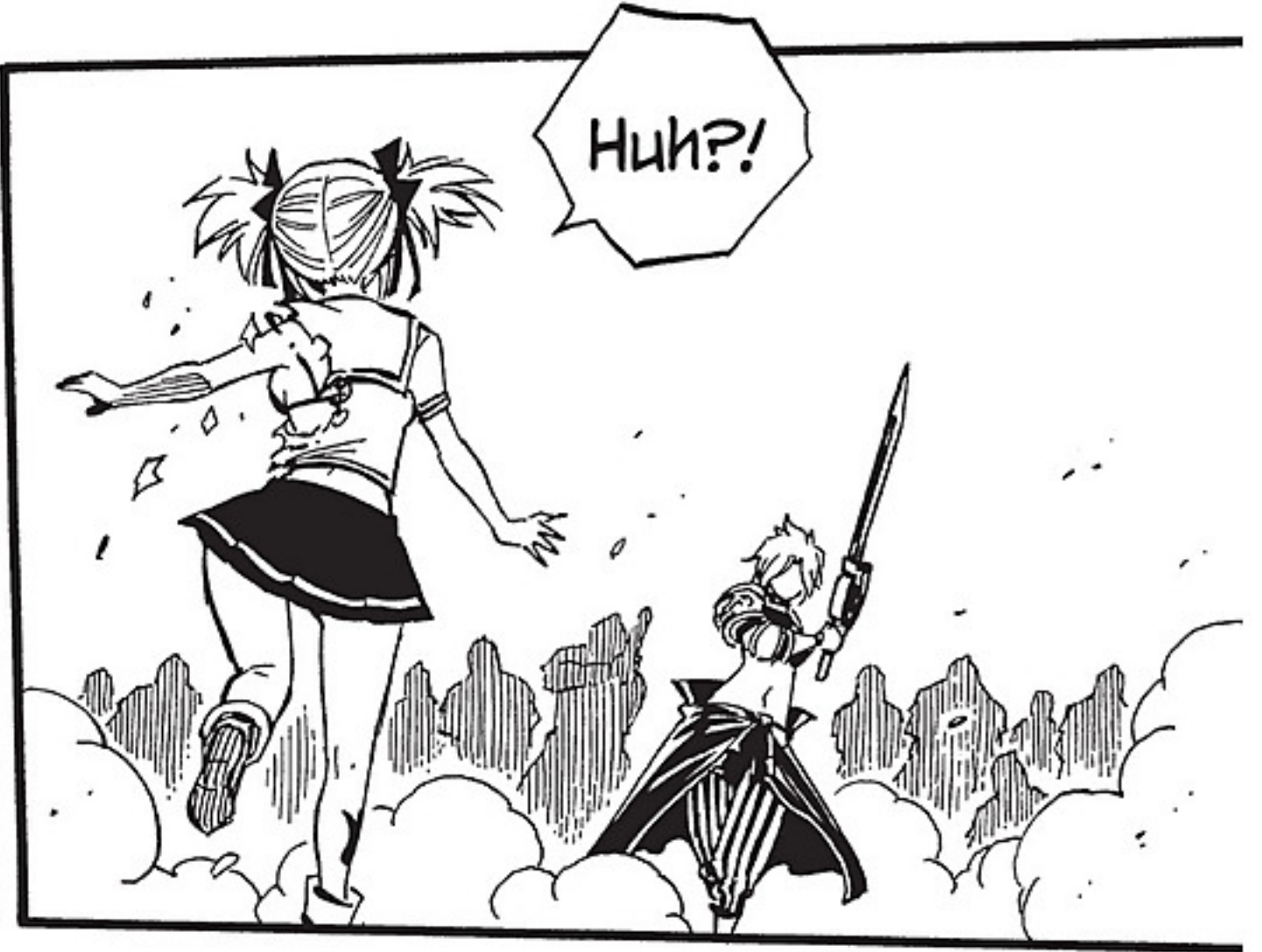
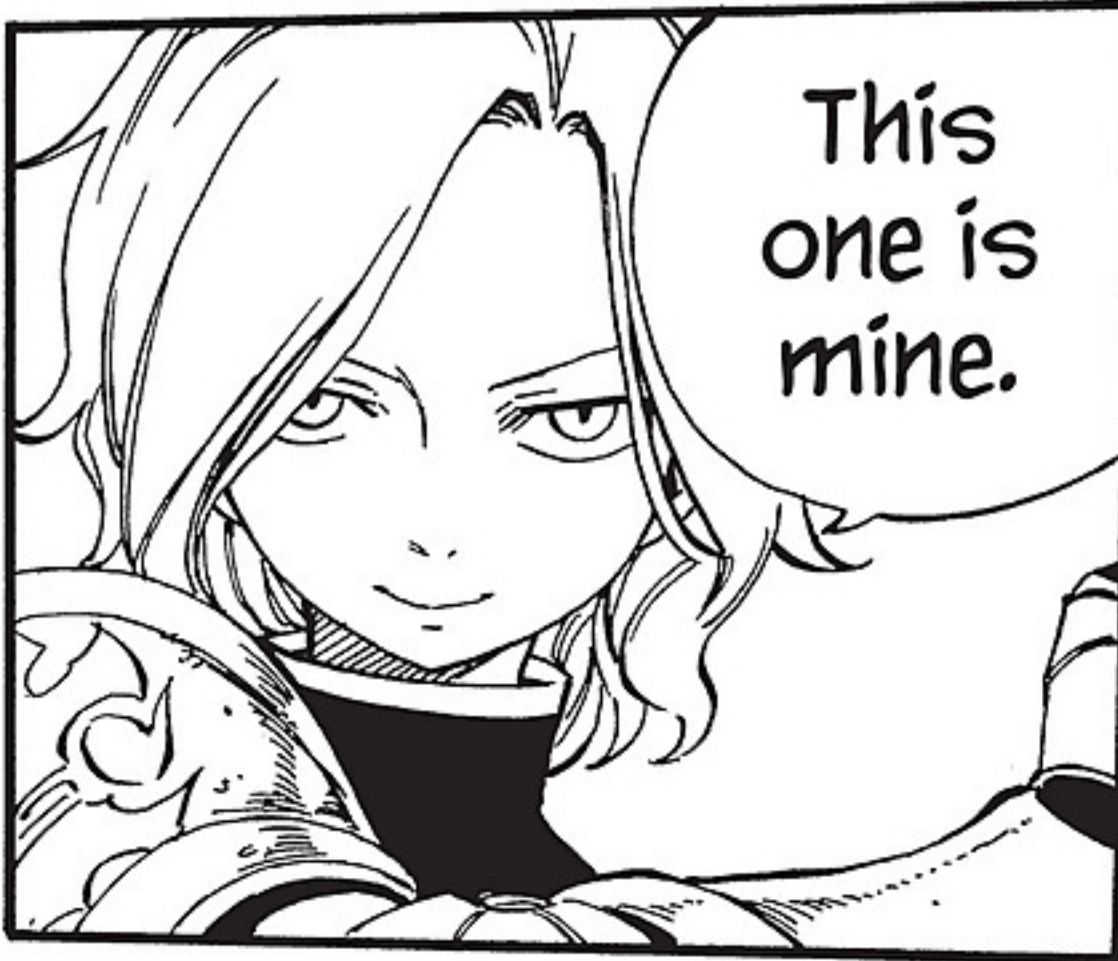
TMP



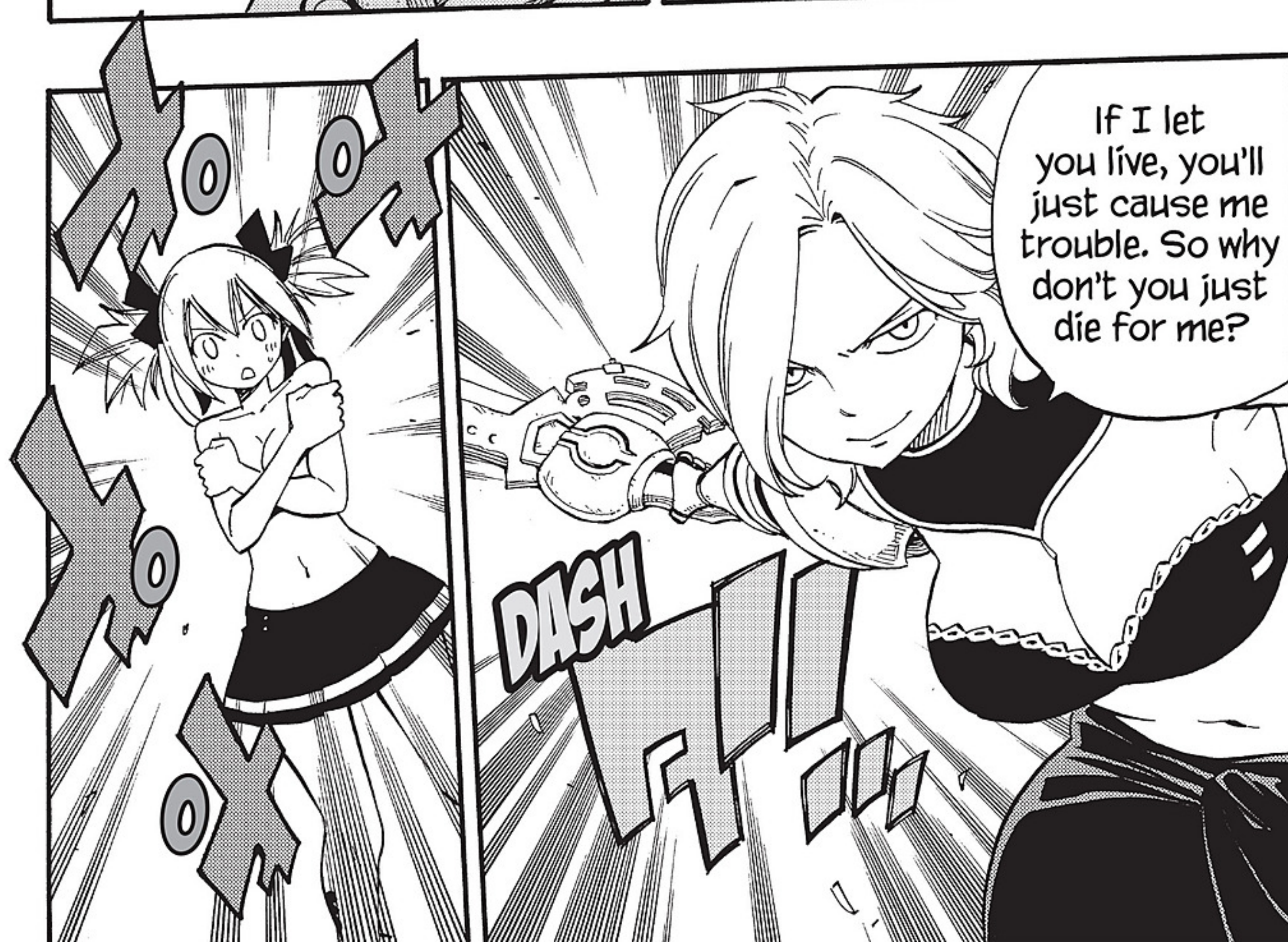
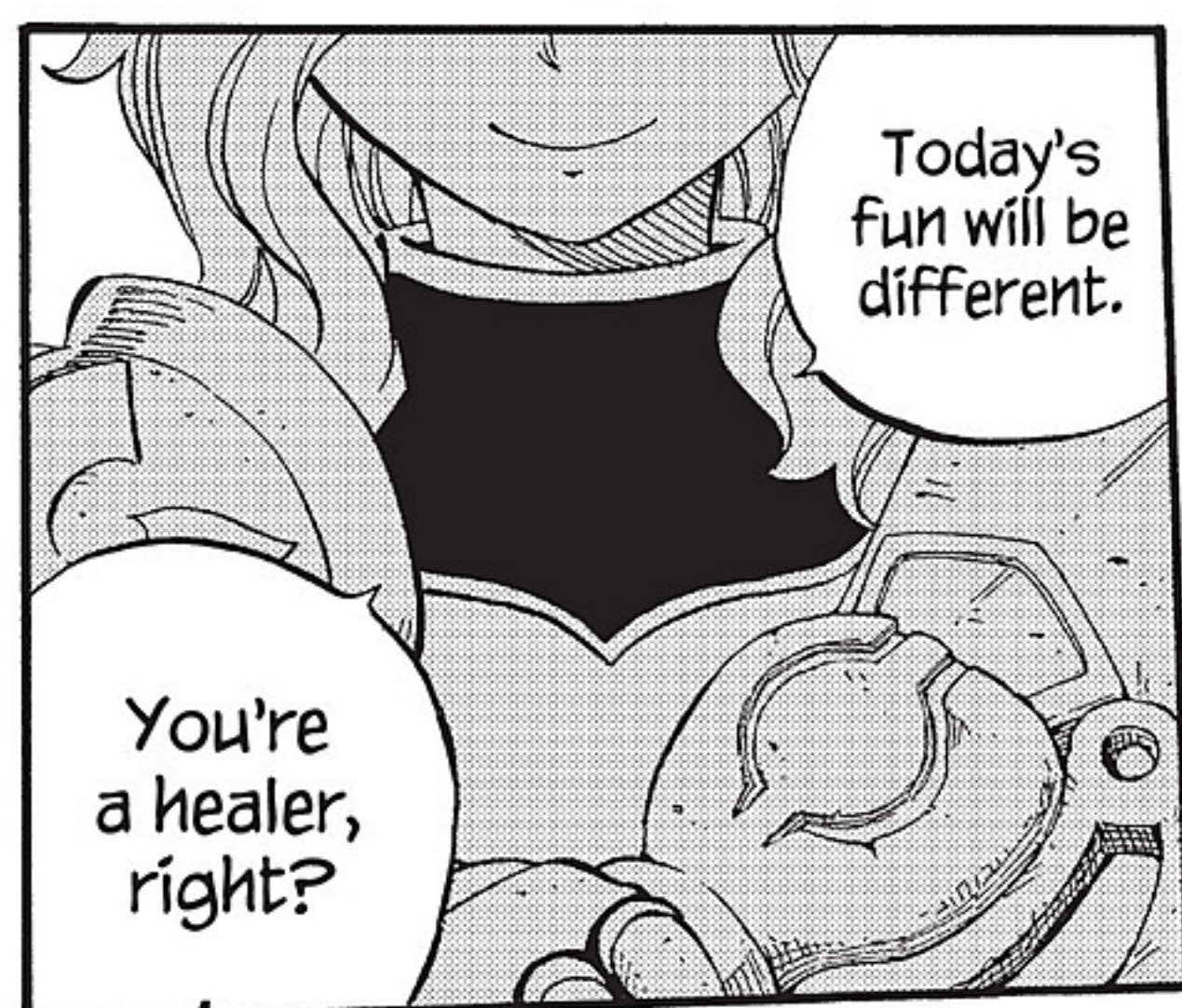
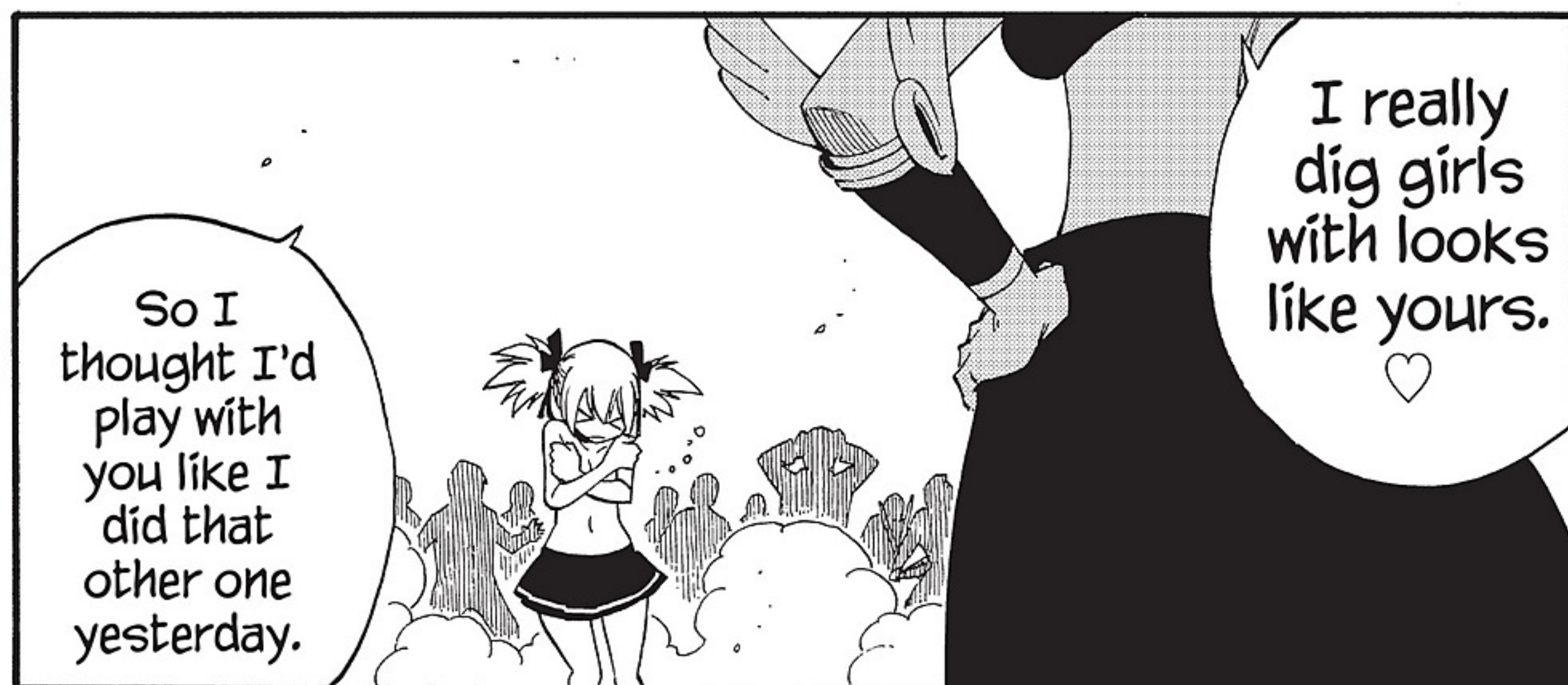
She's  
stronger  
than she  
looks!

What's  
with this  
little  
girl?!

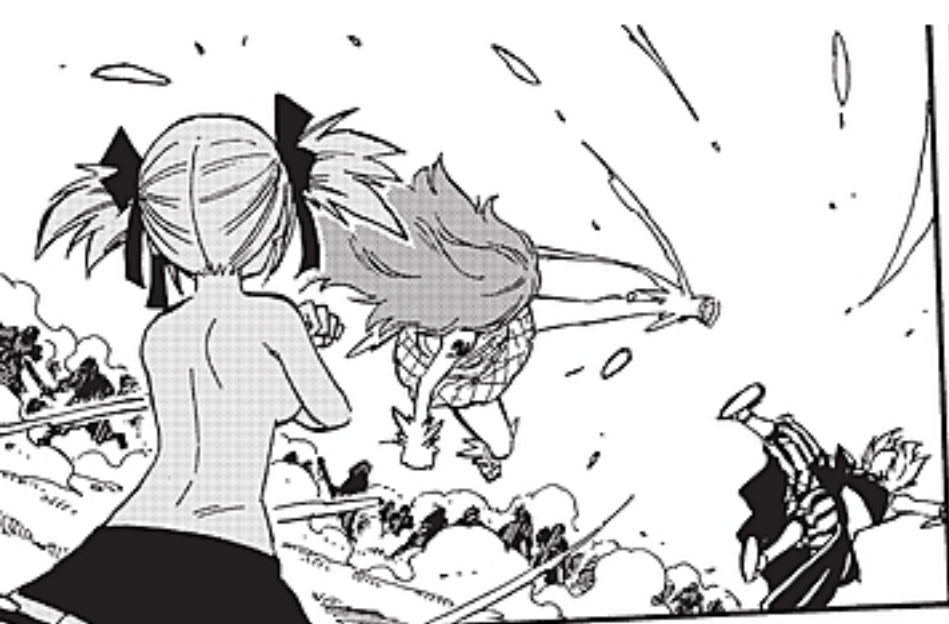












Wendy  
!!!



Sorry  
to keep you  
waiting,  
Sherria!!

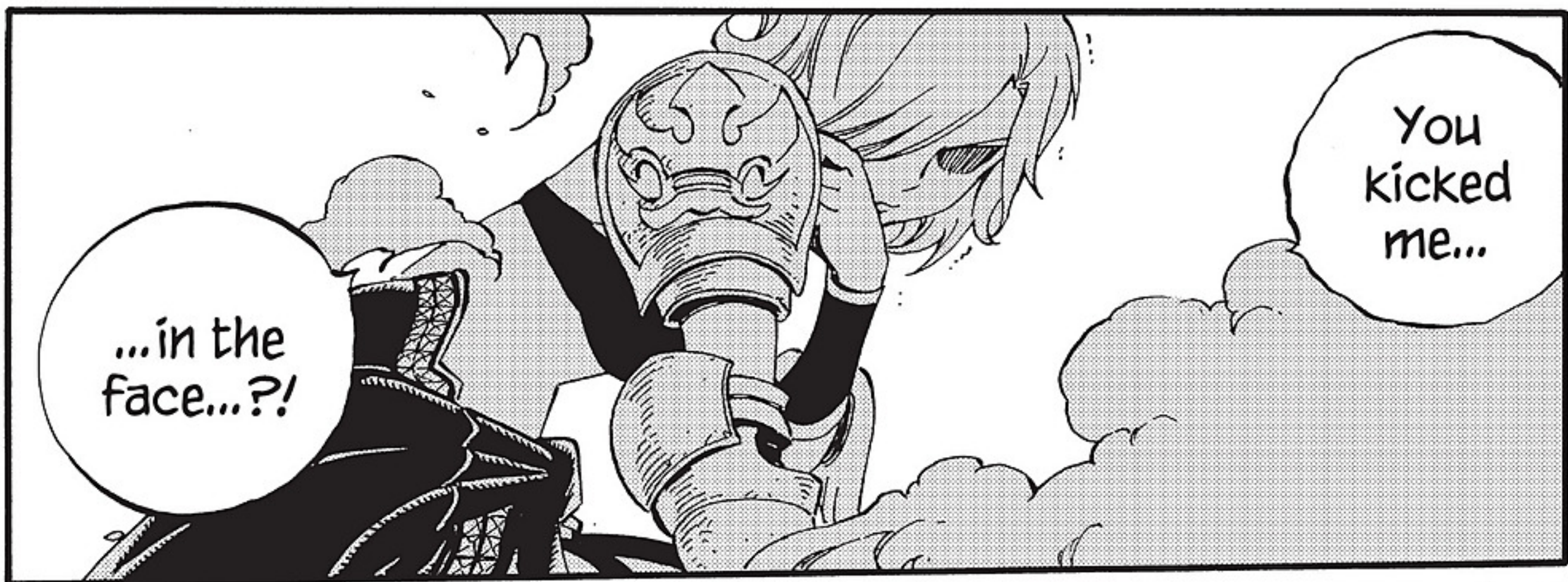
The Sky  
Sisters  
are back  
together!!



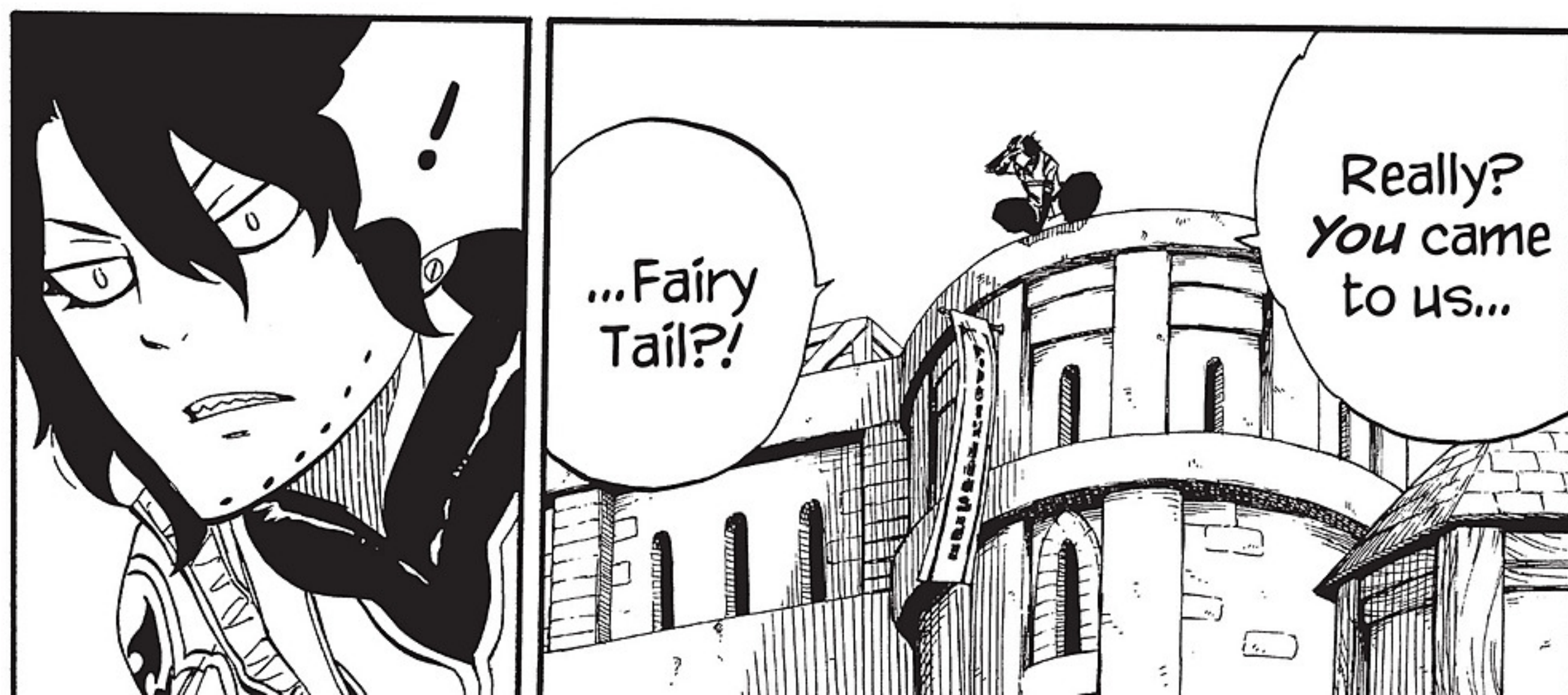
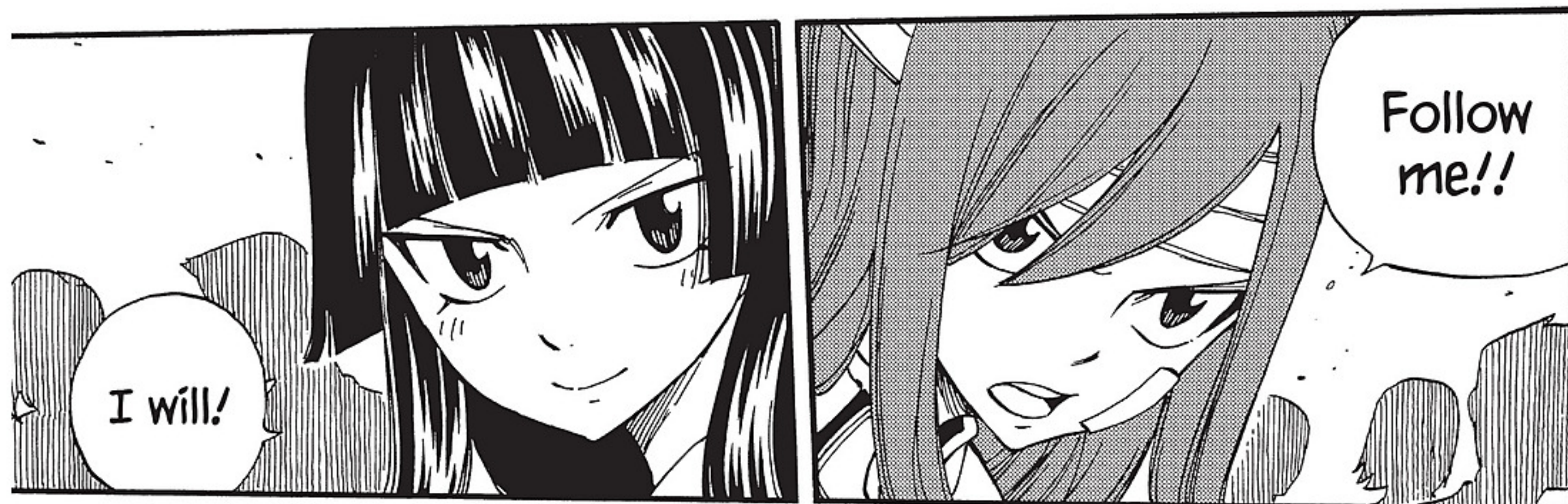
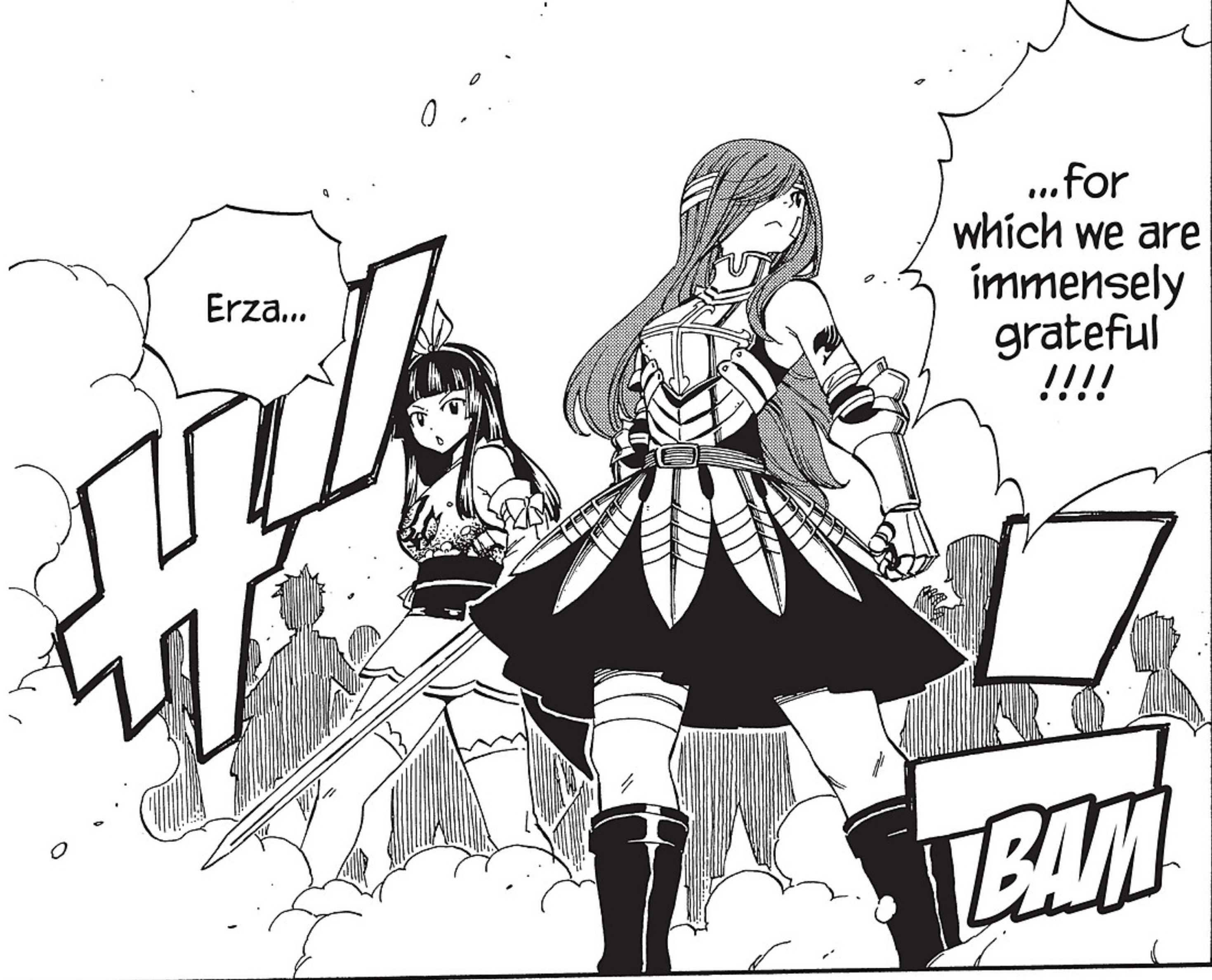
KABOOM

!!!!

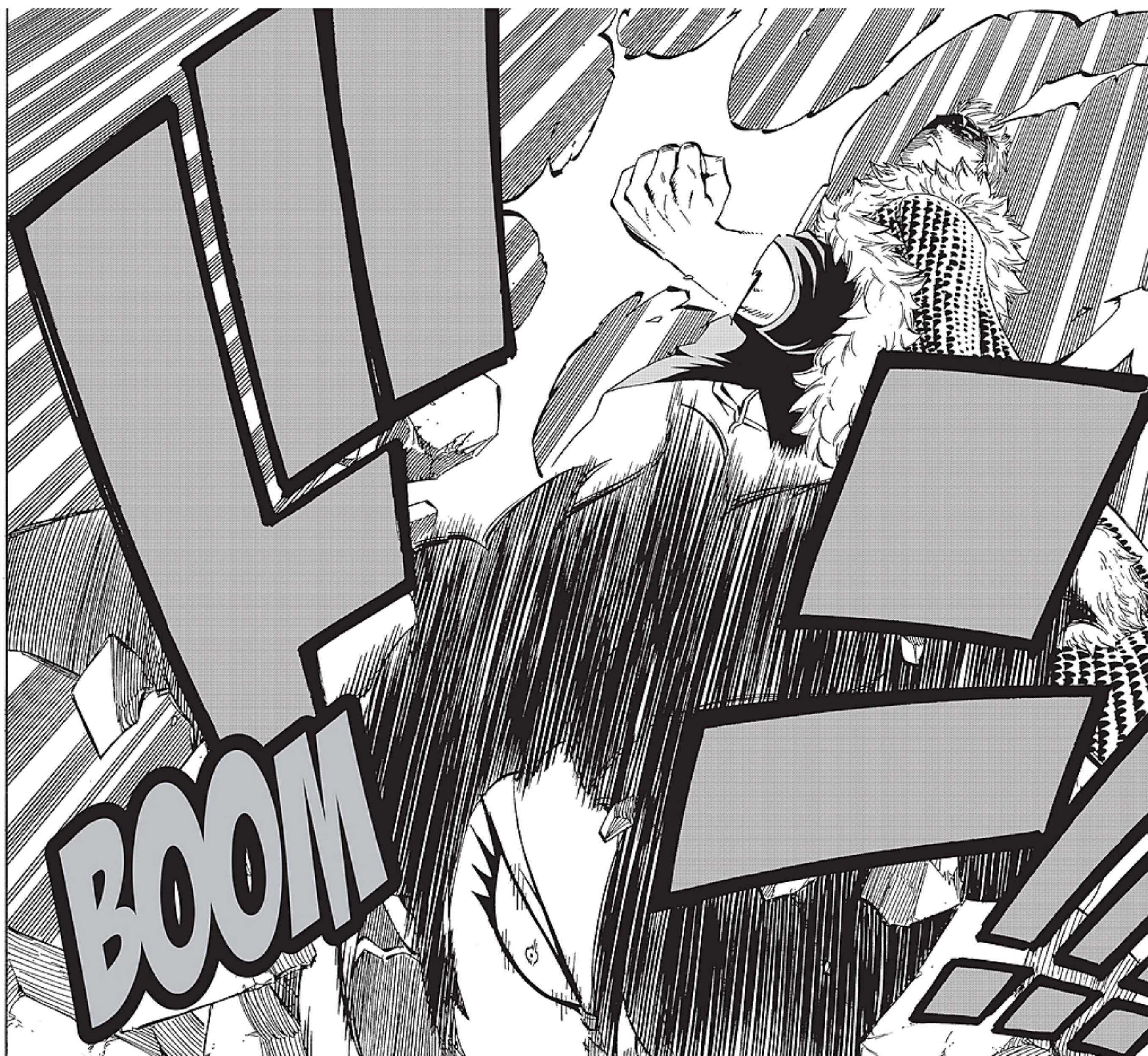
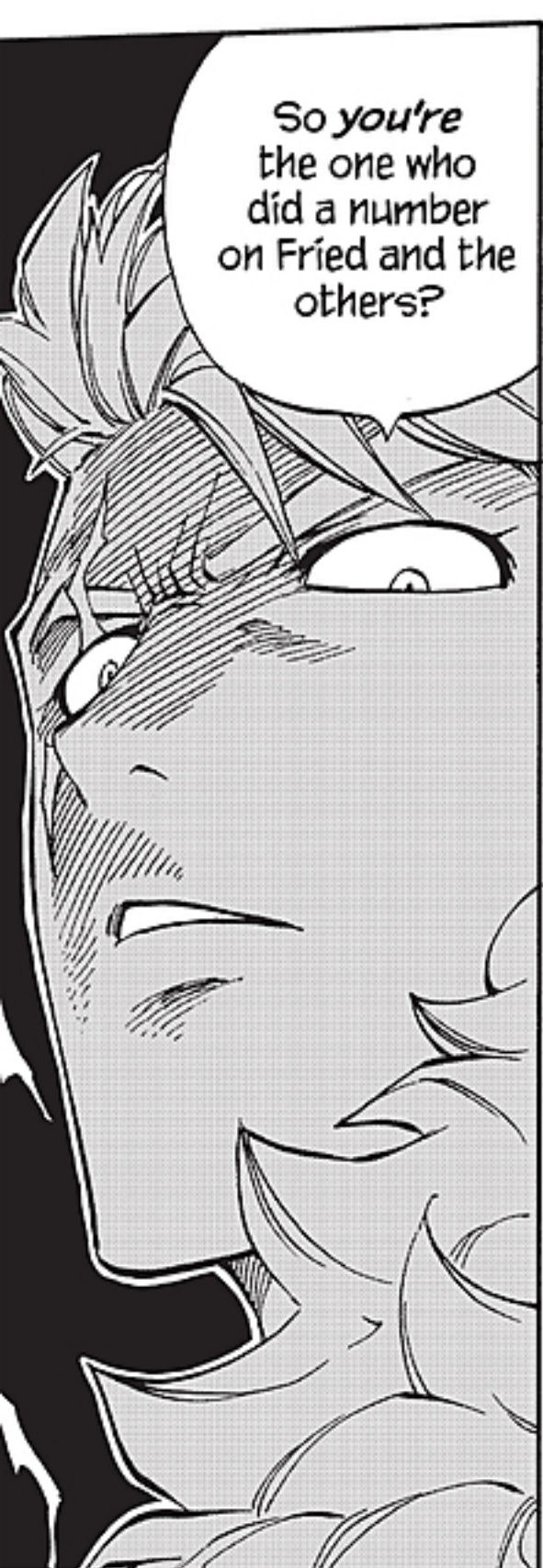




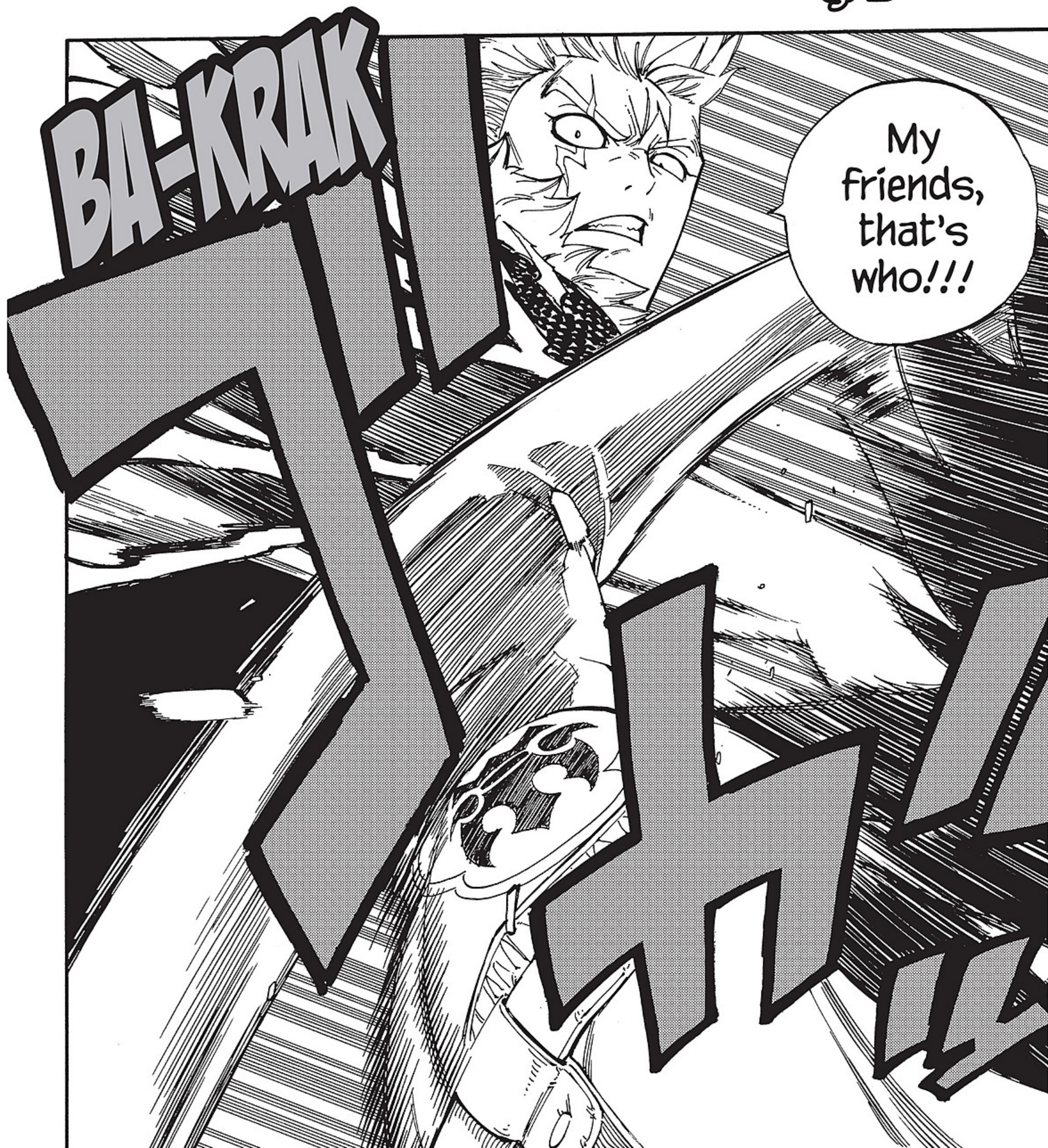
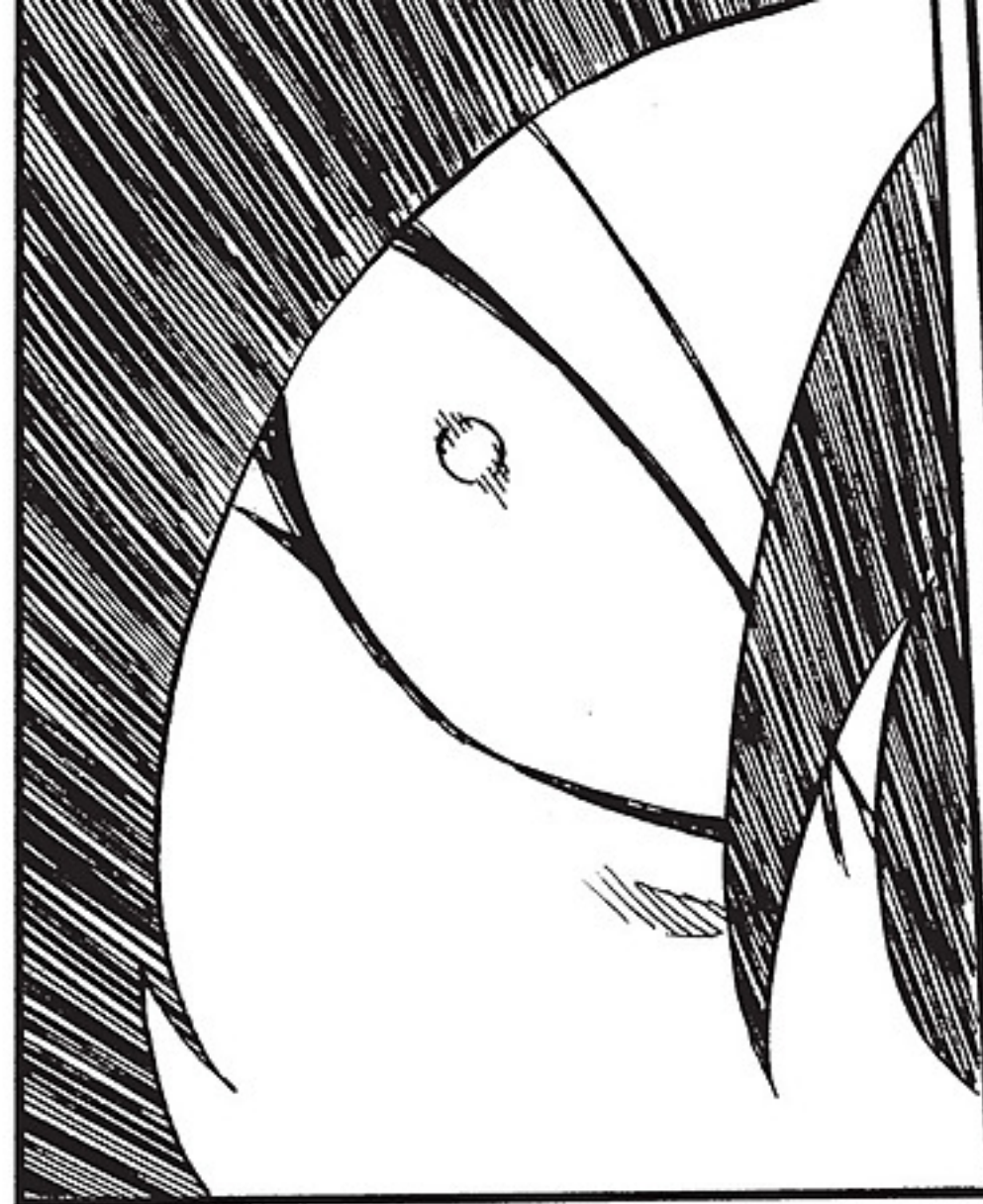














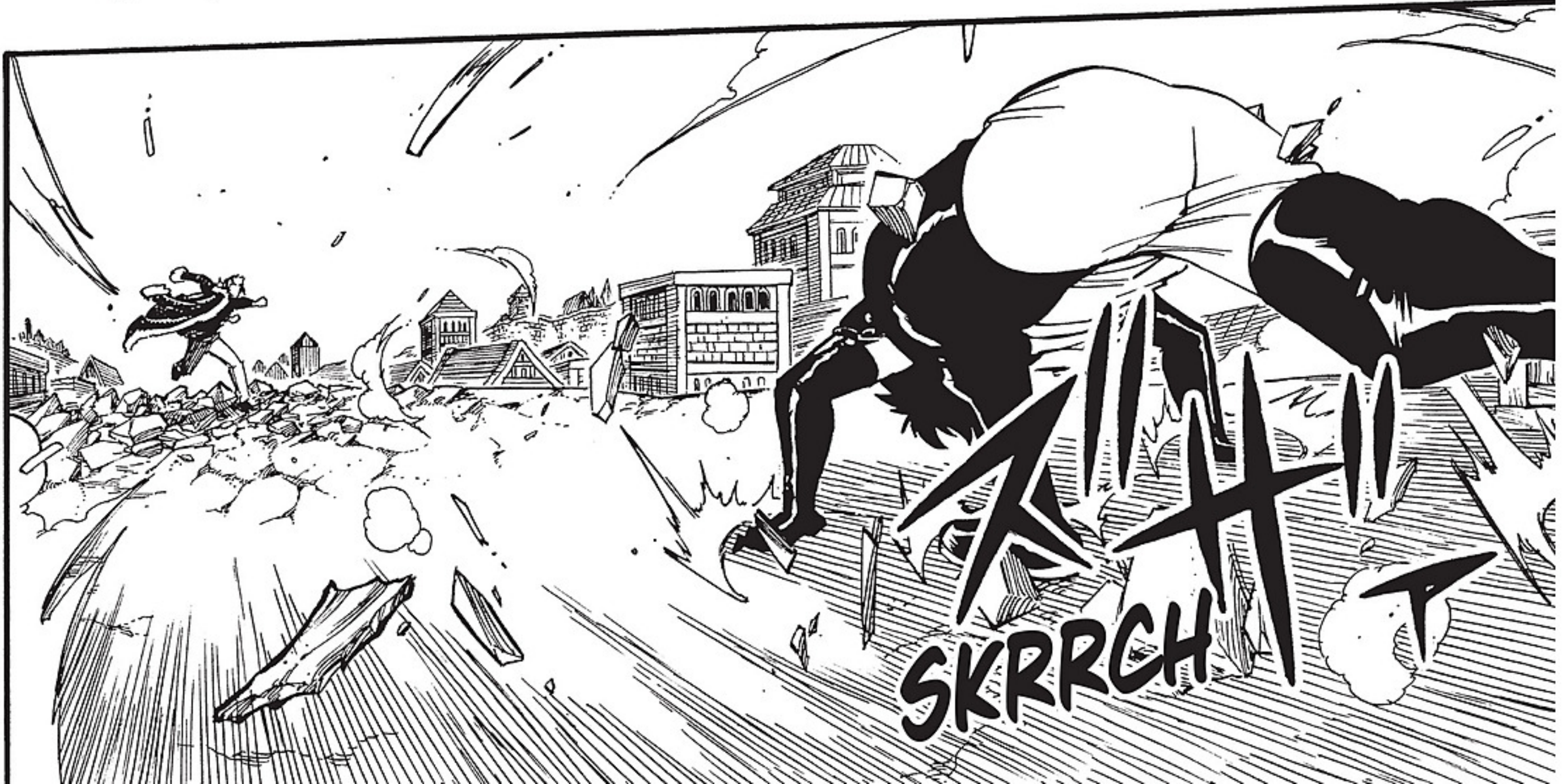
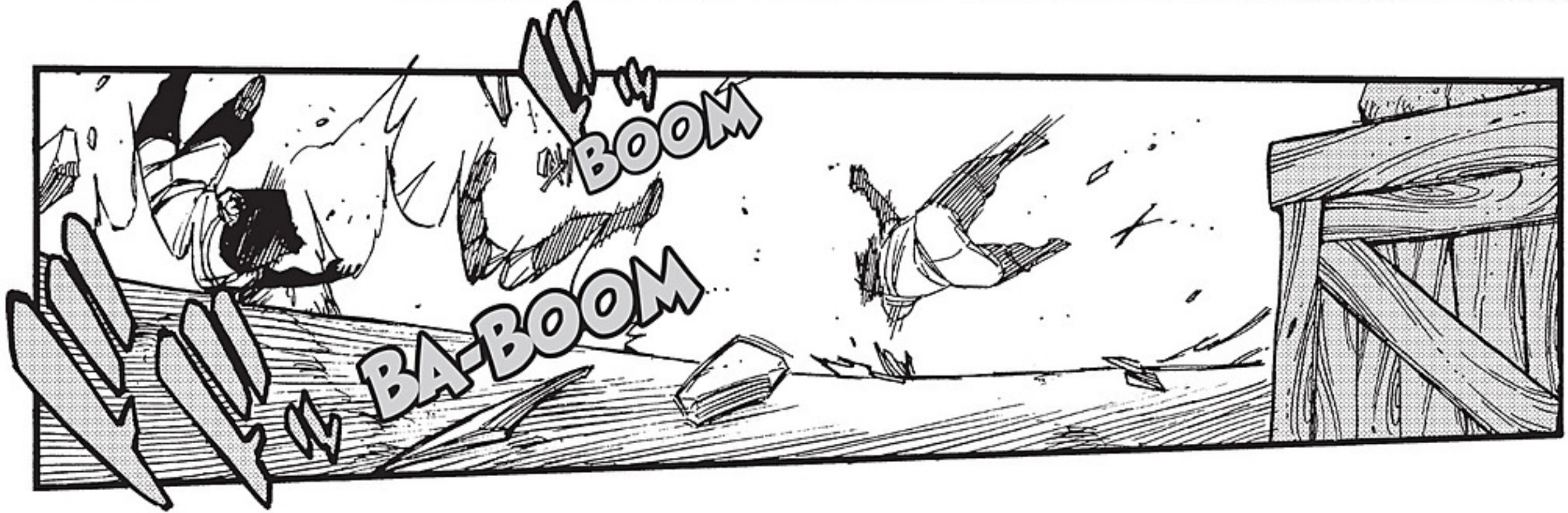
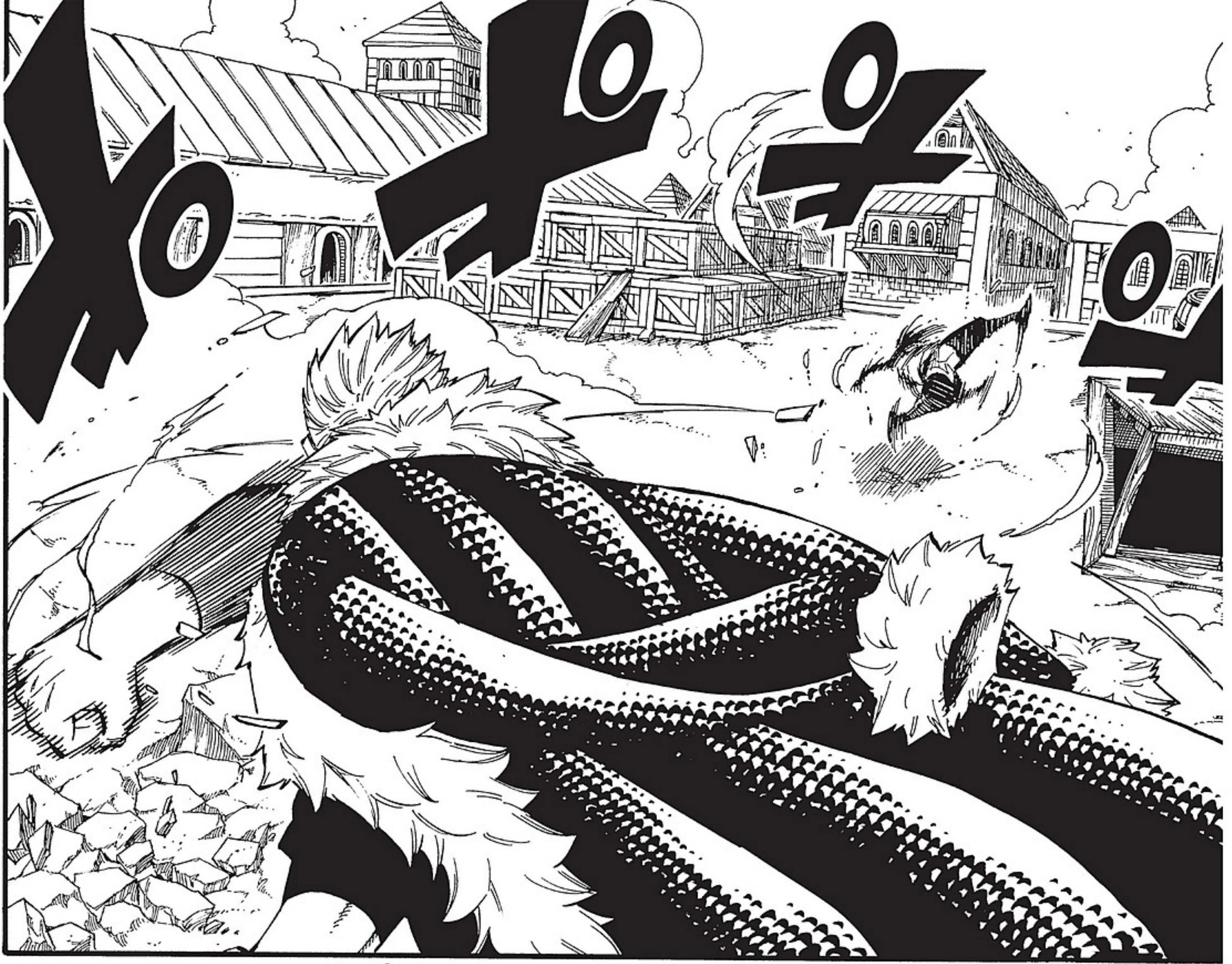
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

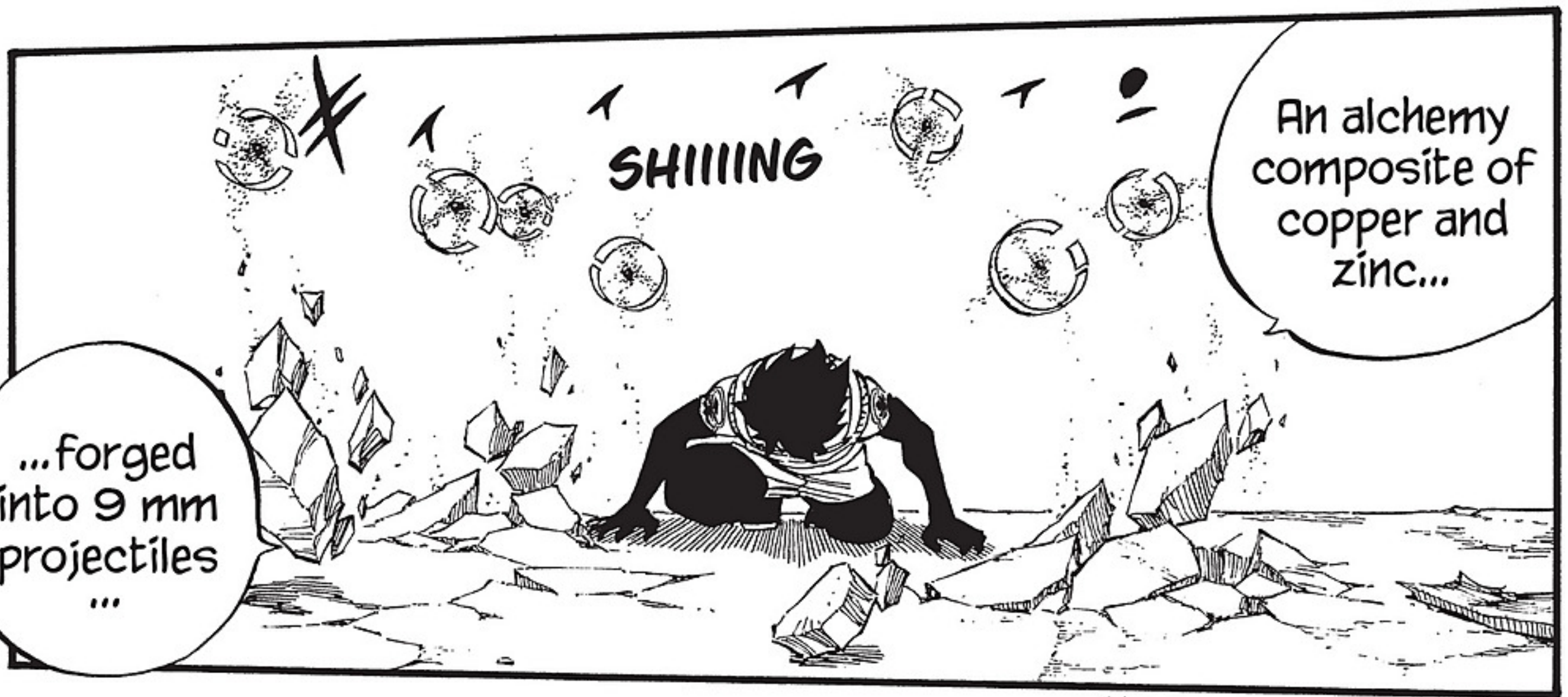
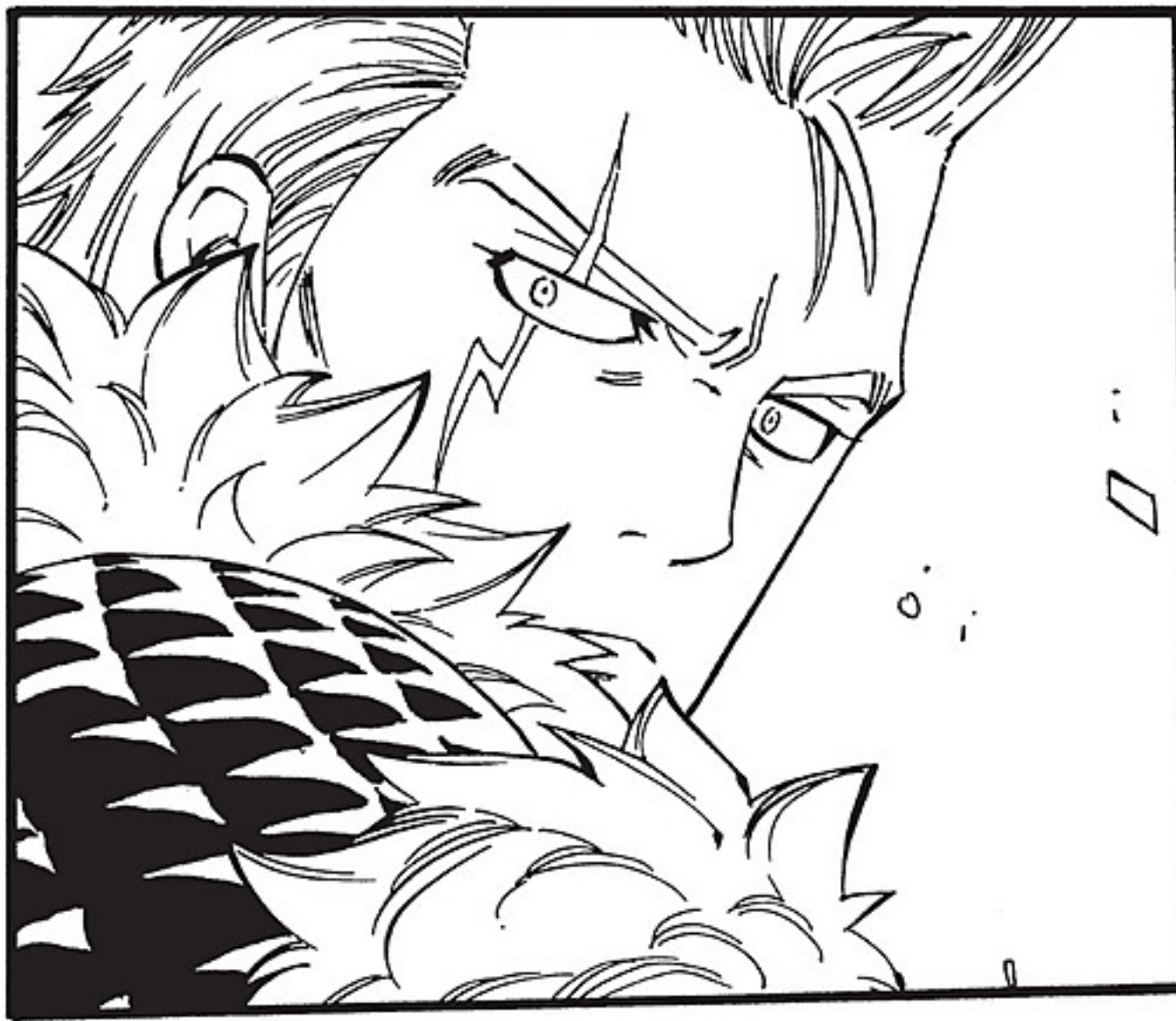
## Chapter 472: Laxus vs. Wall



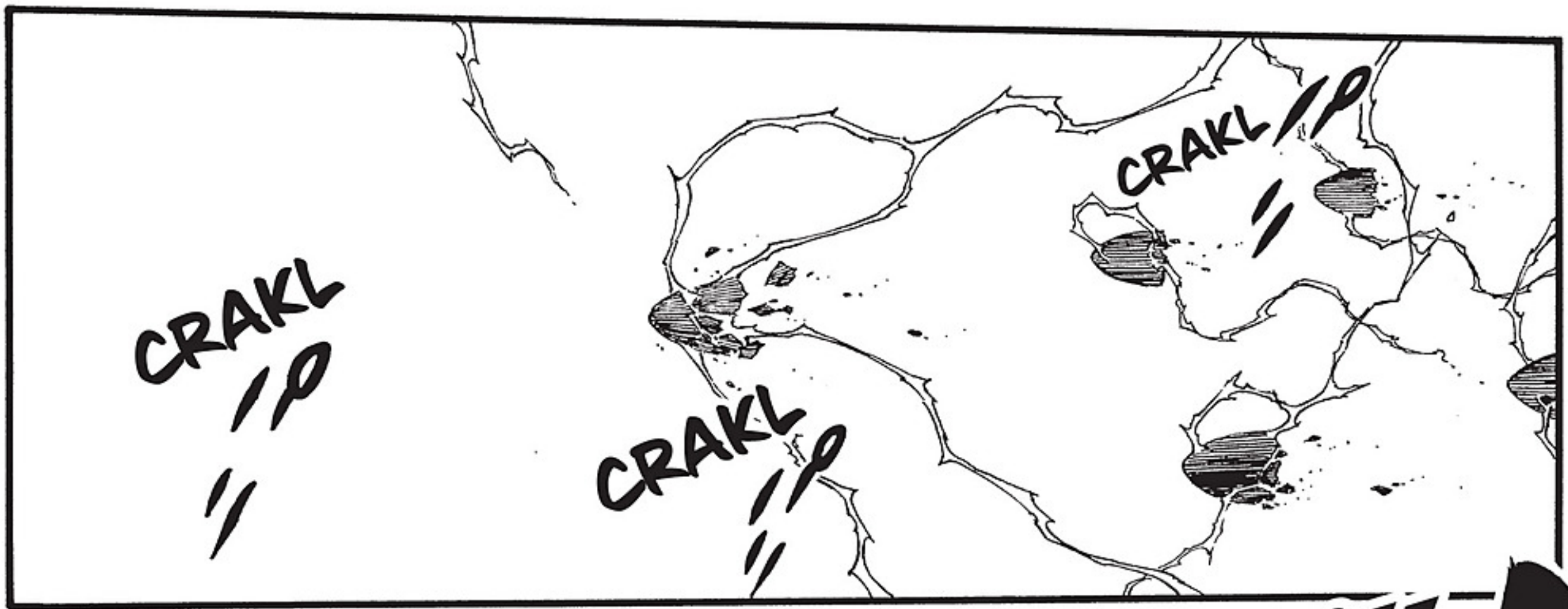
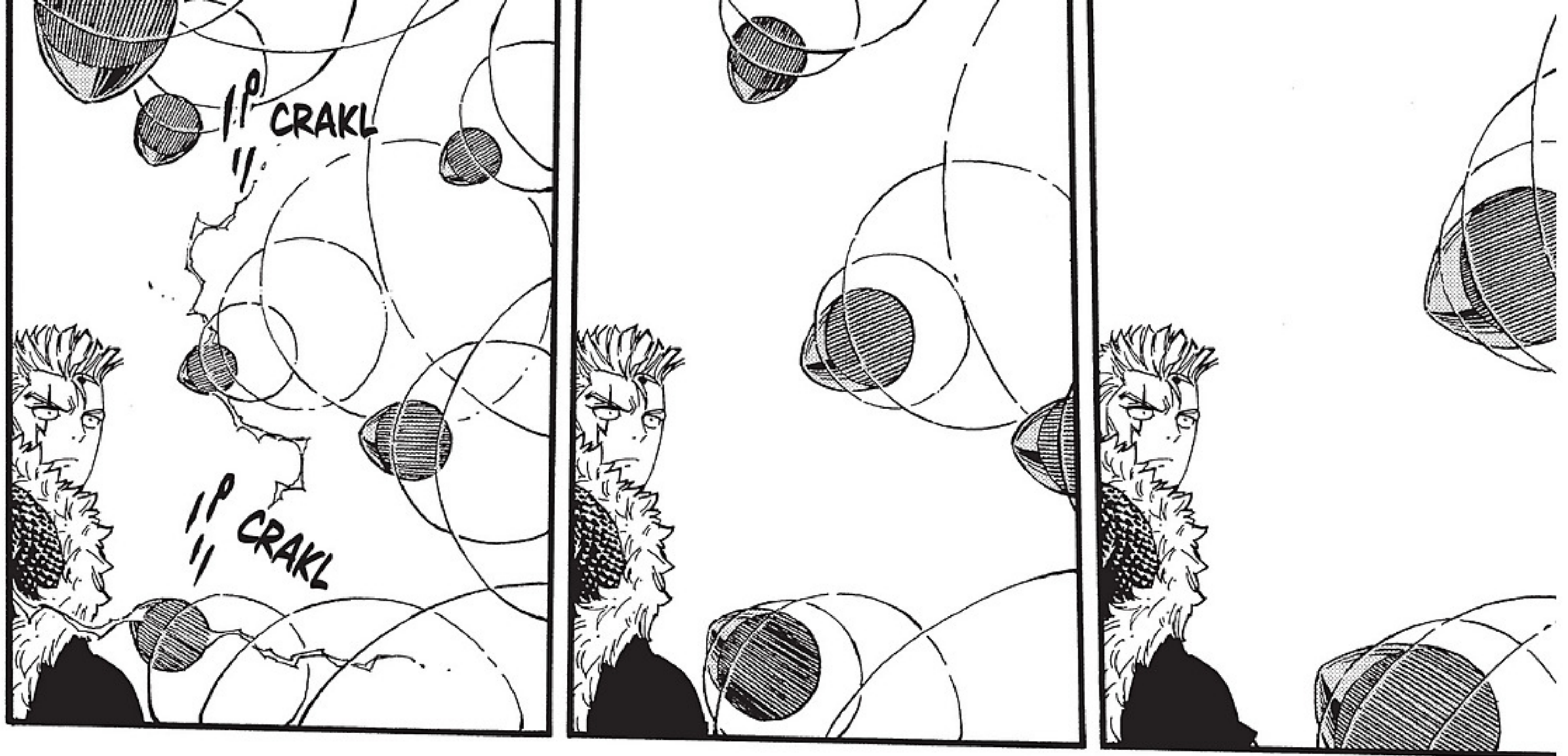




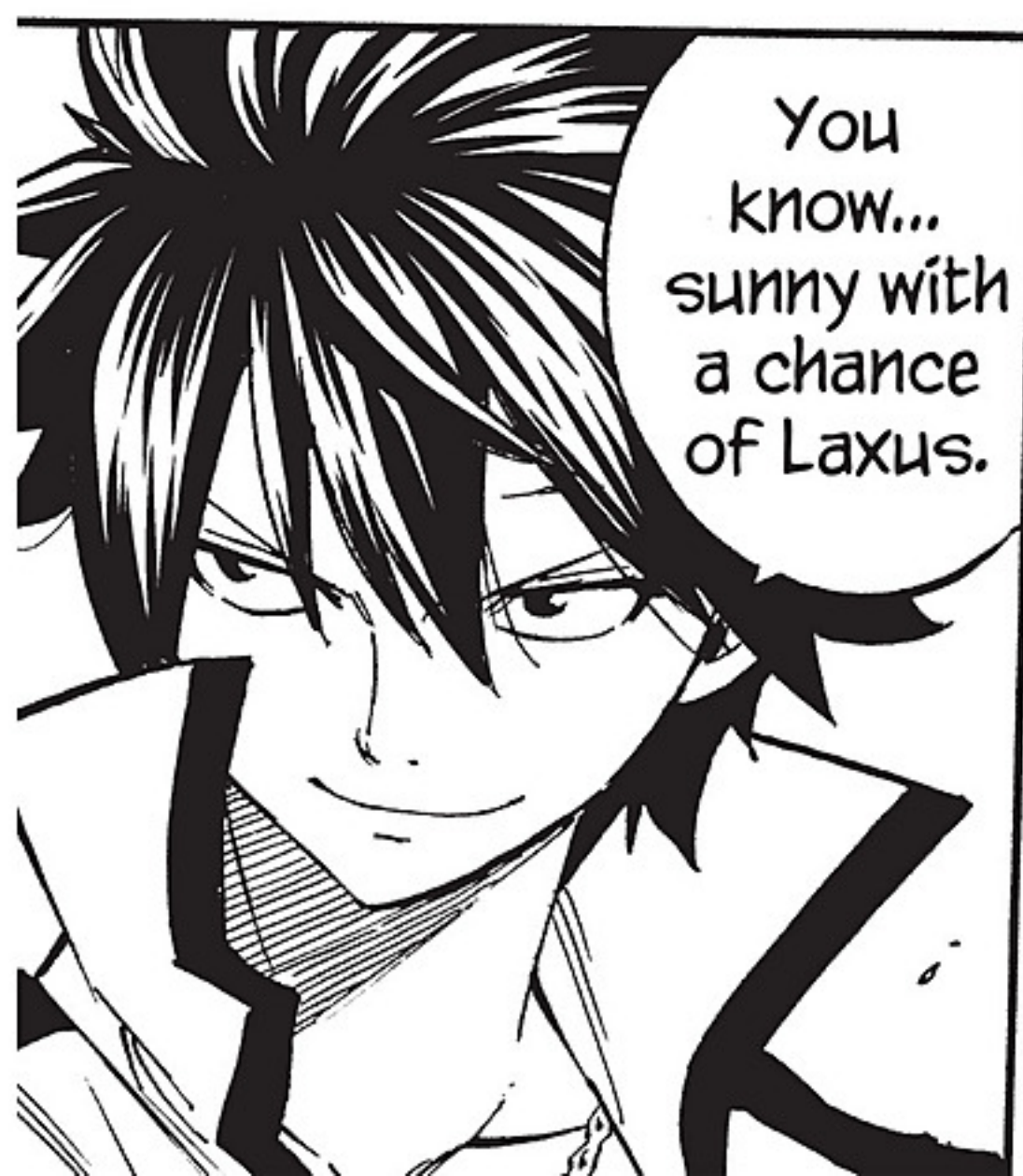












You know... sunny with a chance of Laxus.



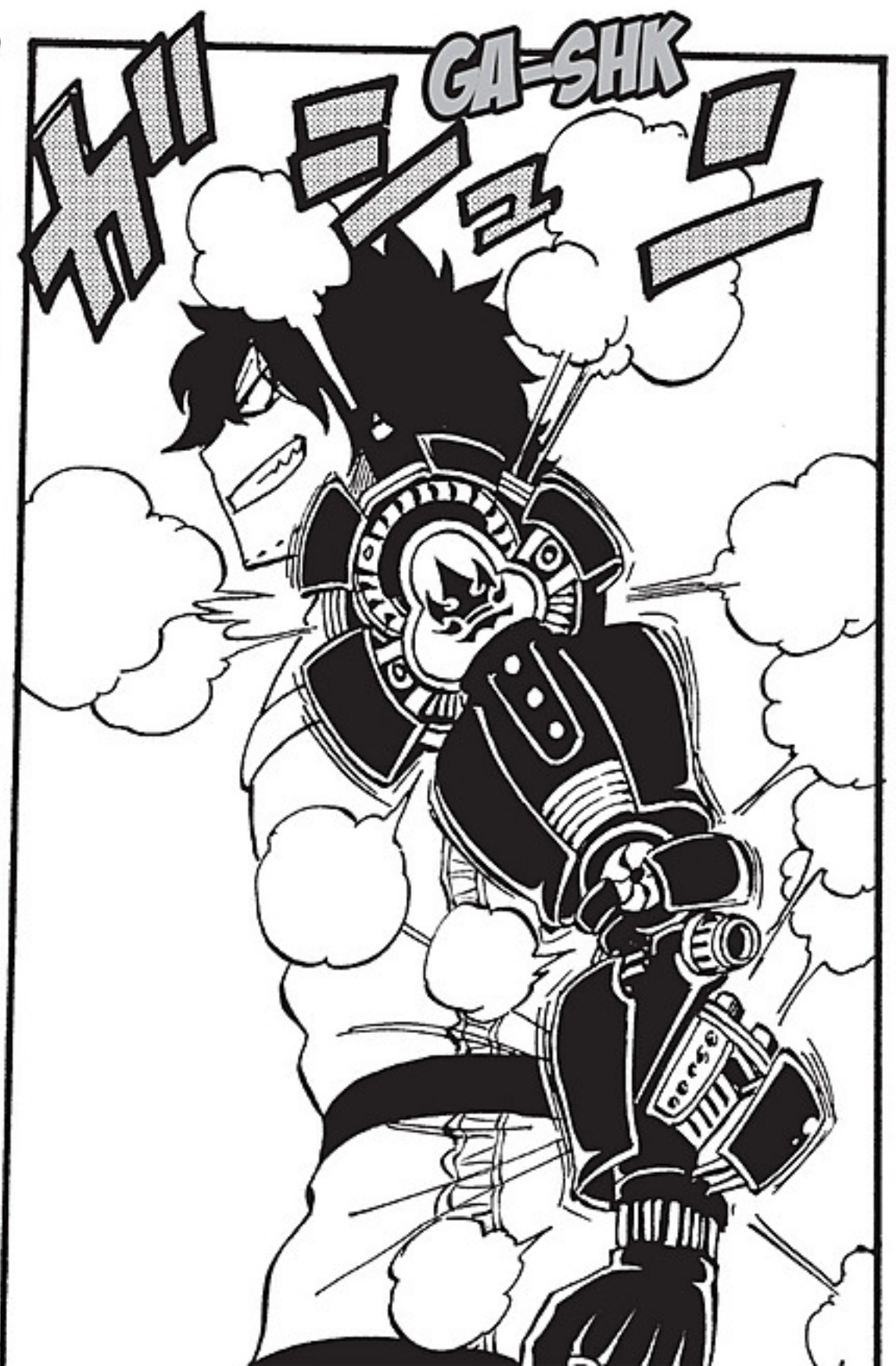
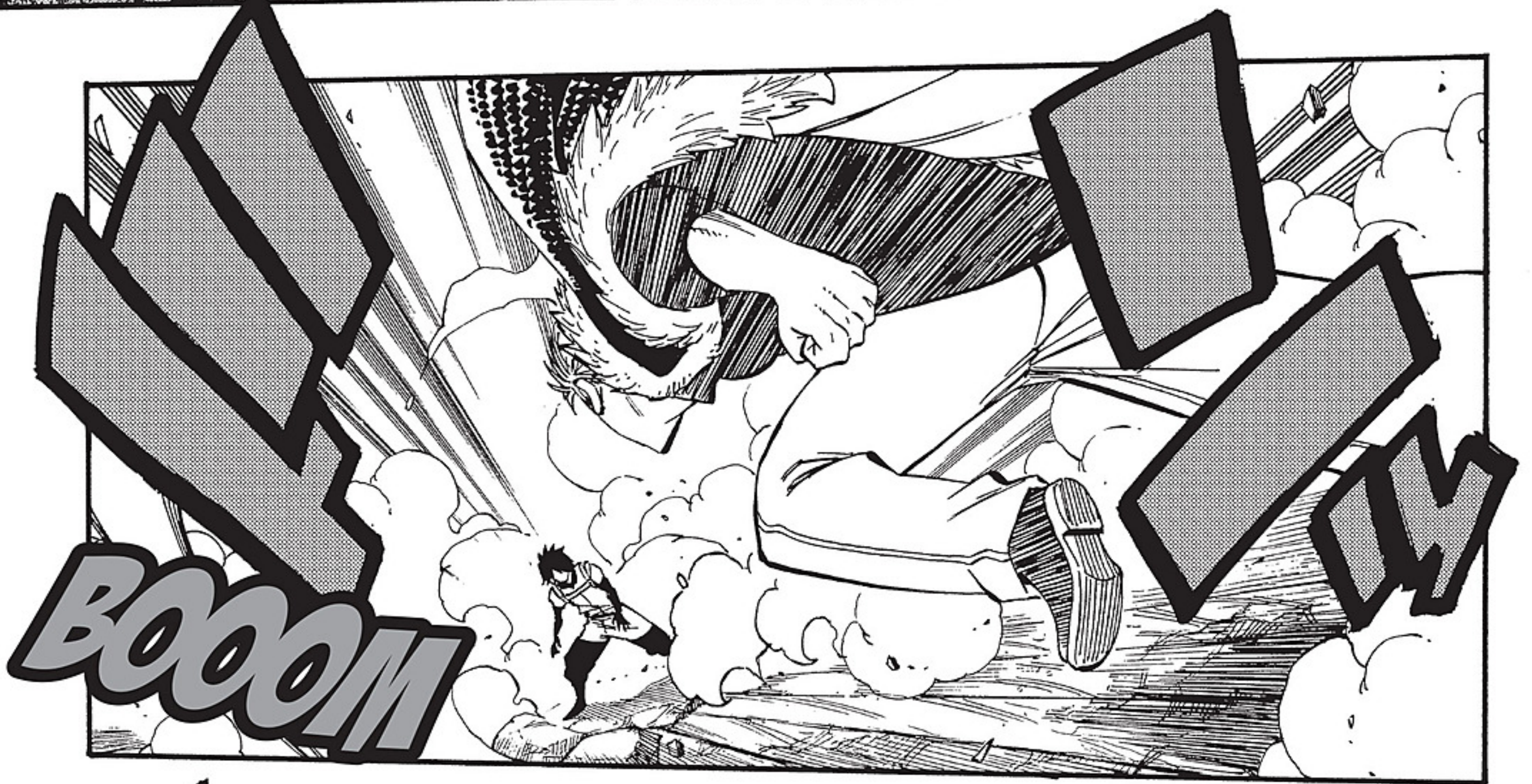
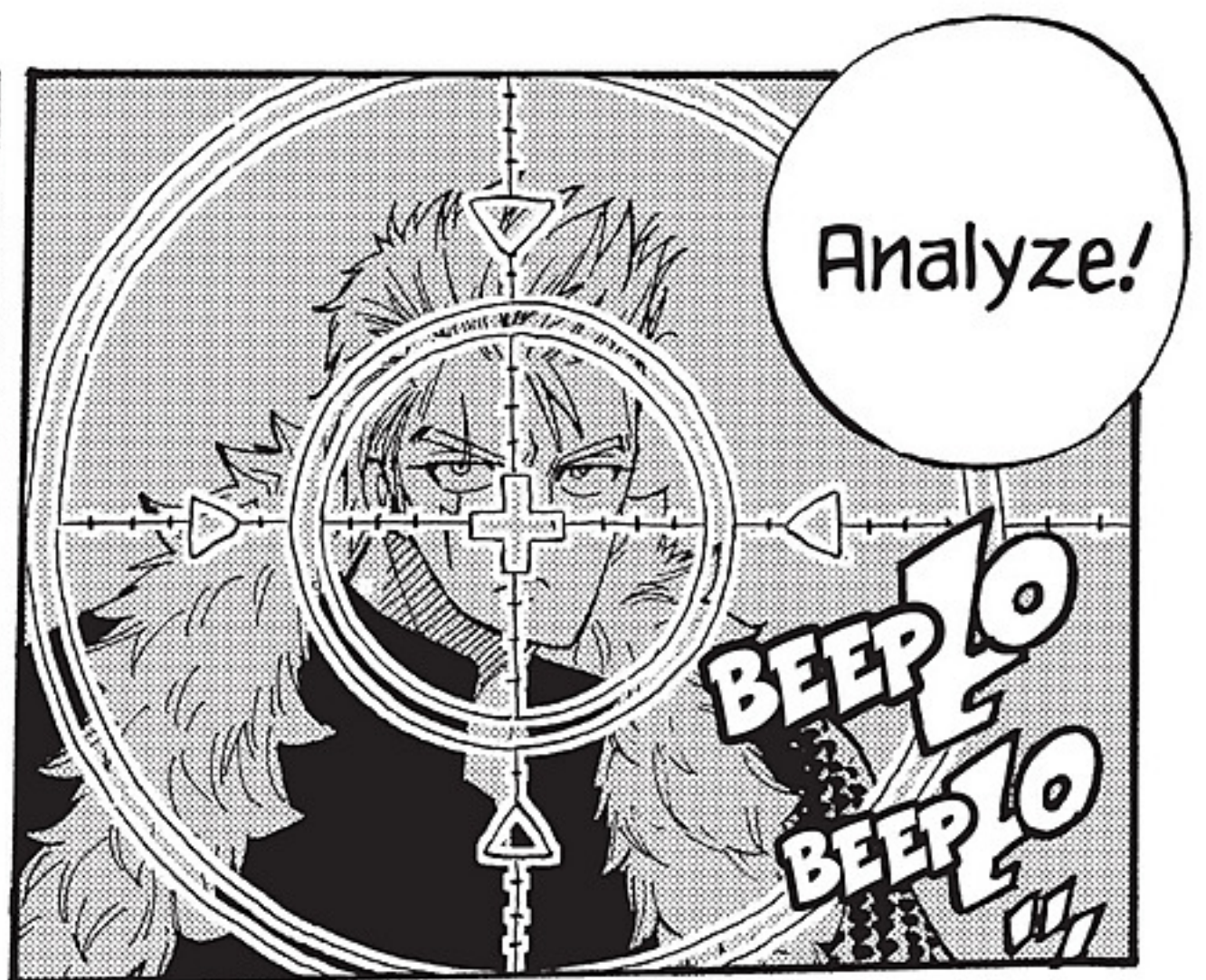
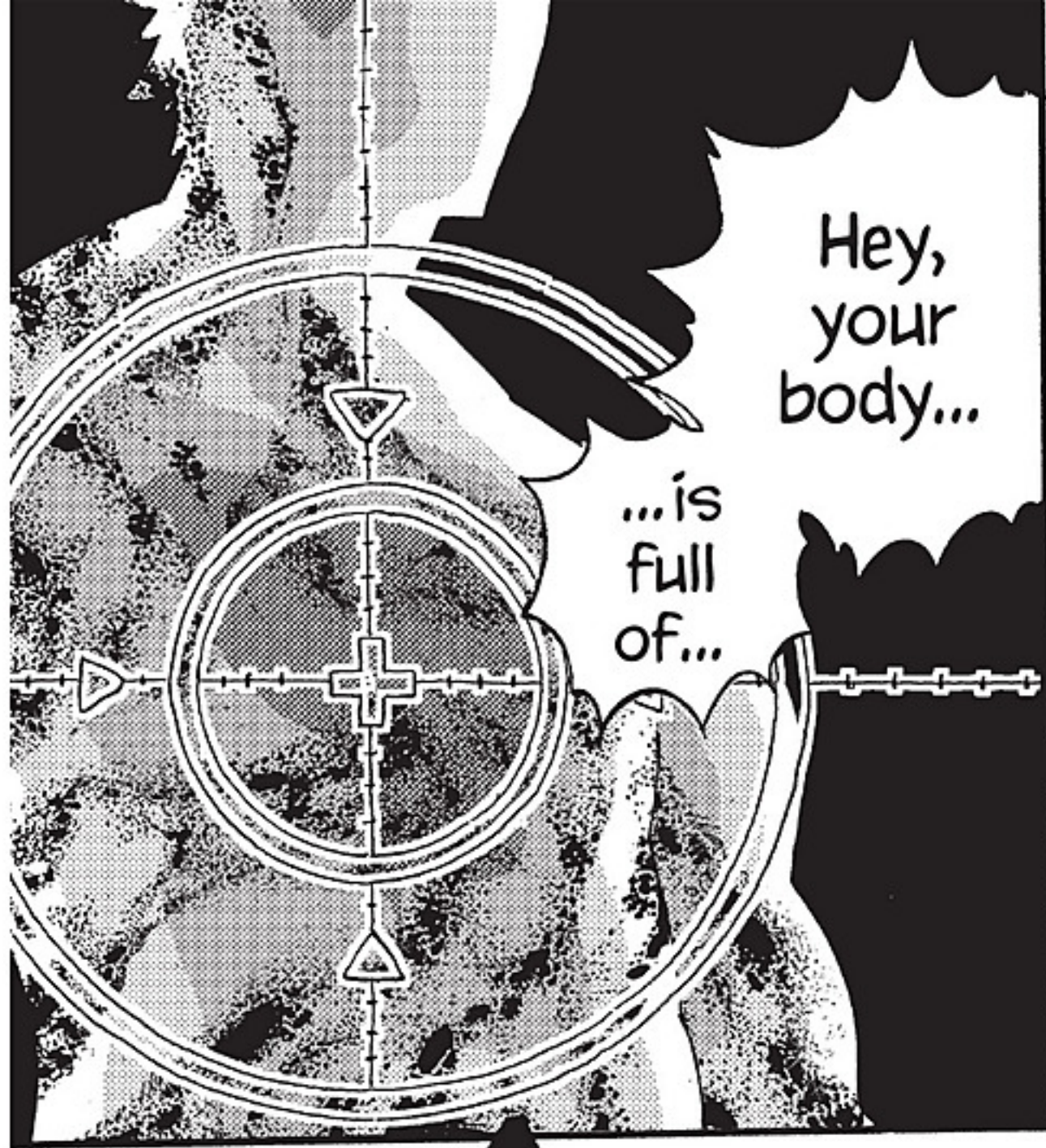
That's typical weather in Magnolia.

Lightning ...?!

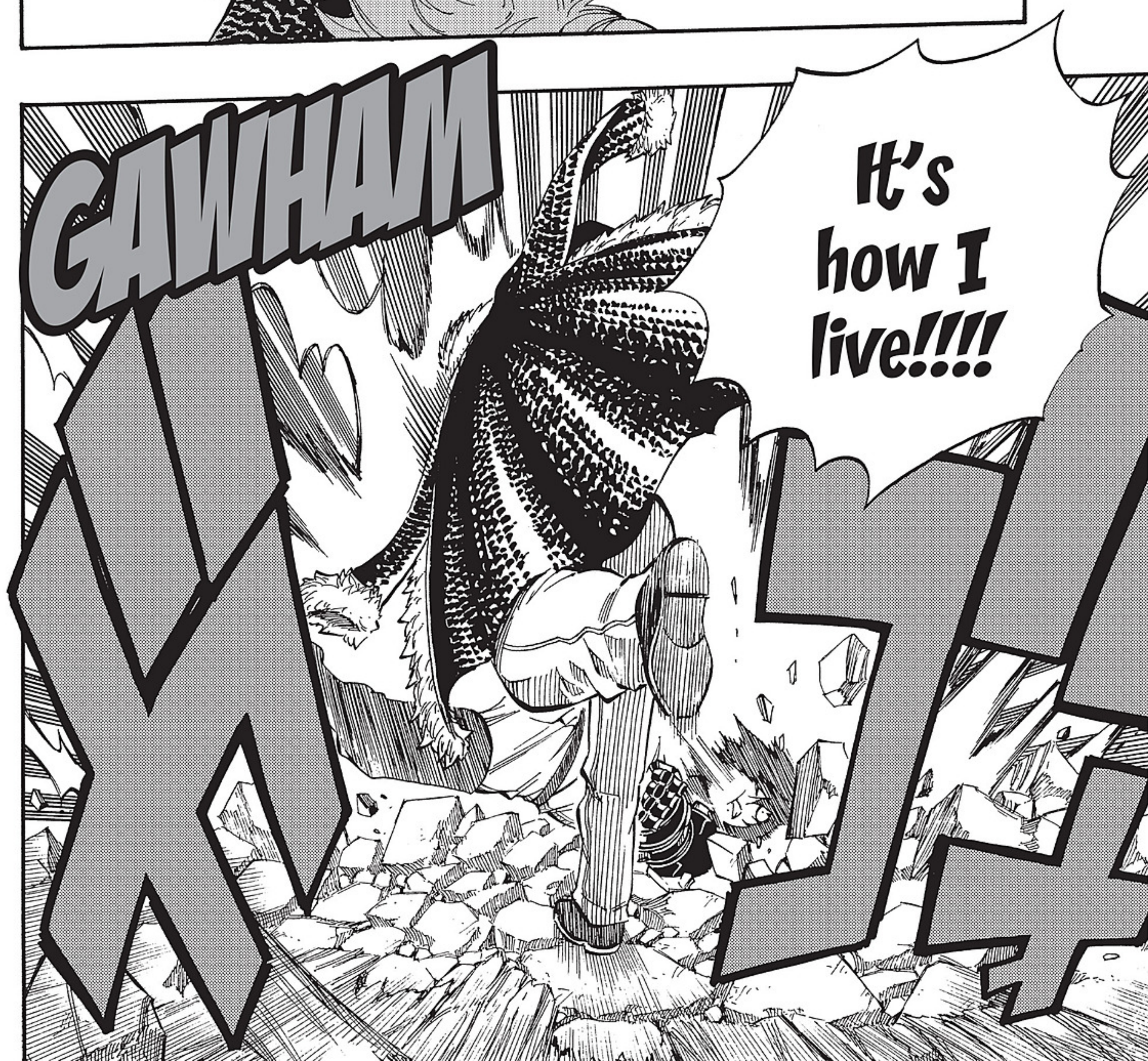
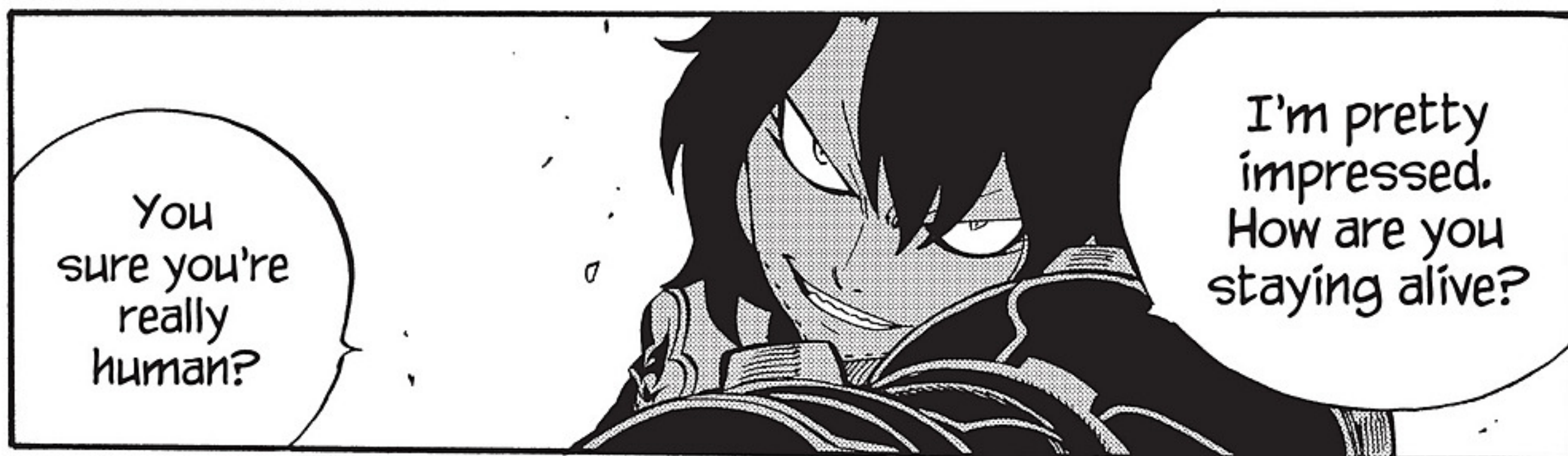
















Lightning  
ain't gonna  
work on  
me.



Consider  
this a  
warning.



You  
humans.  
Always so  
picky with  
words.

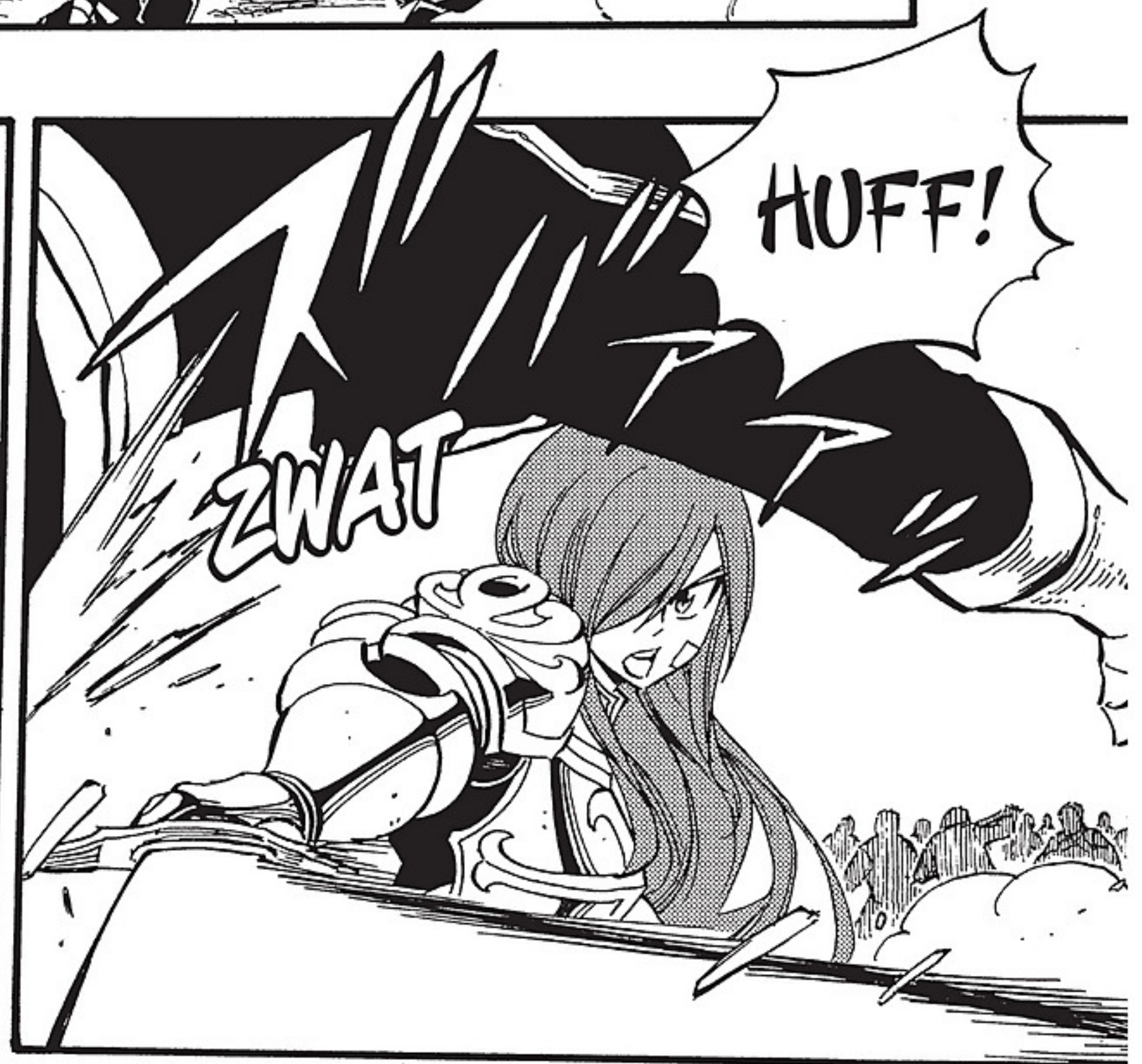


Ahya  
hya hya  
hya!!!

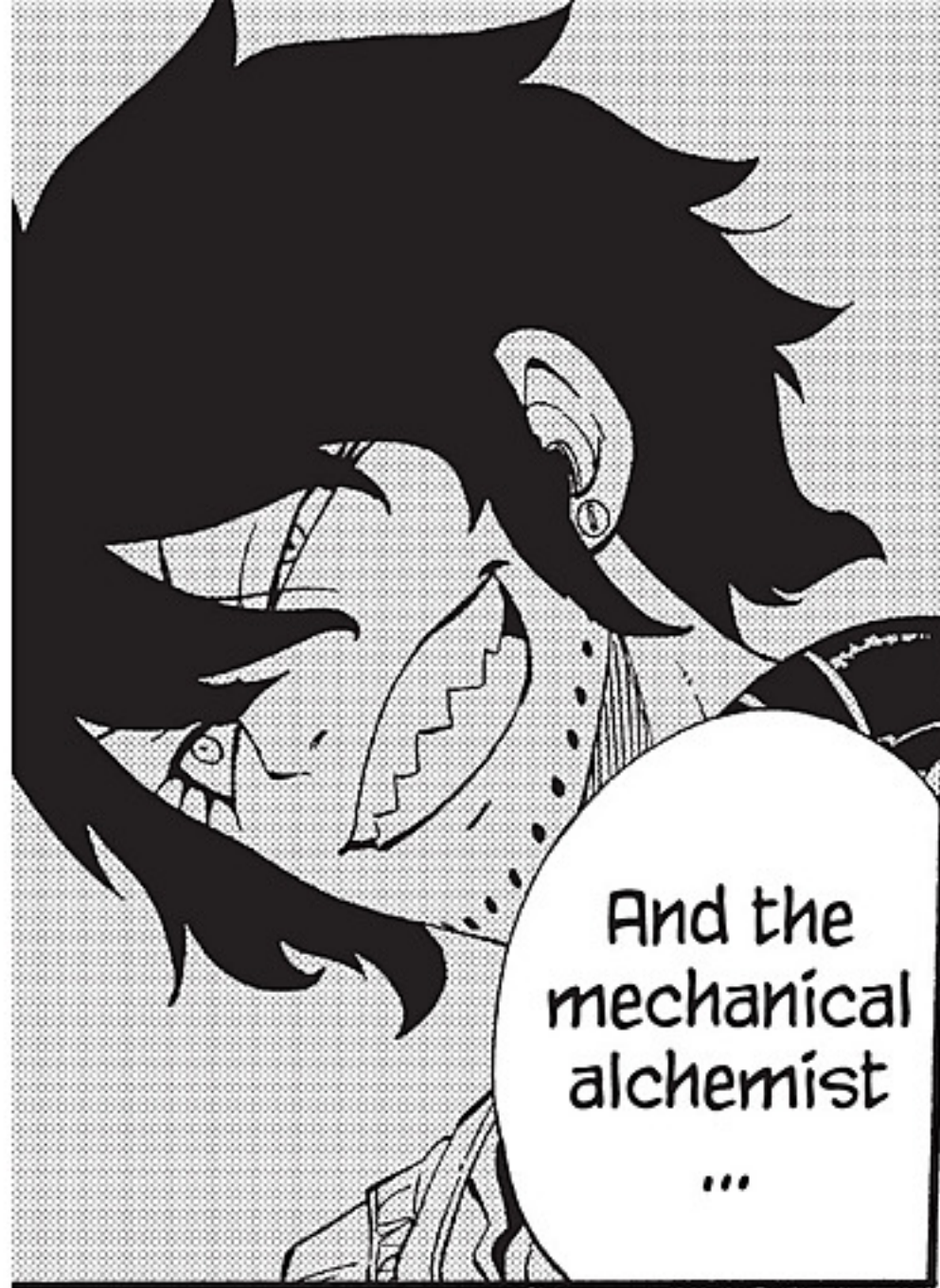
I want'cha  
to think real  
hard about how  
you wanna  
die!!!!

Gah!





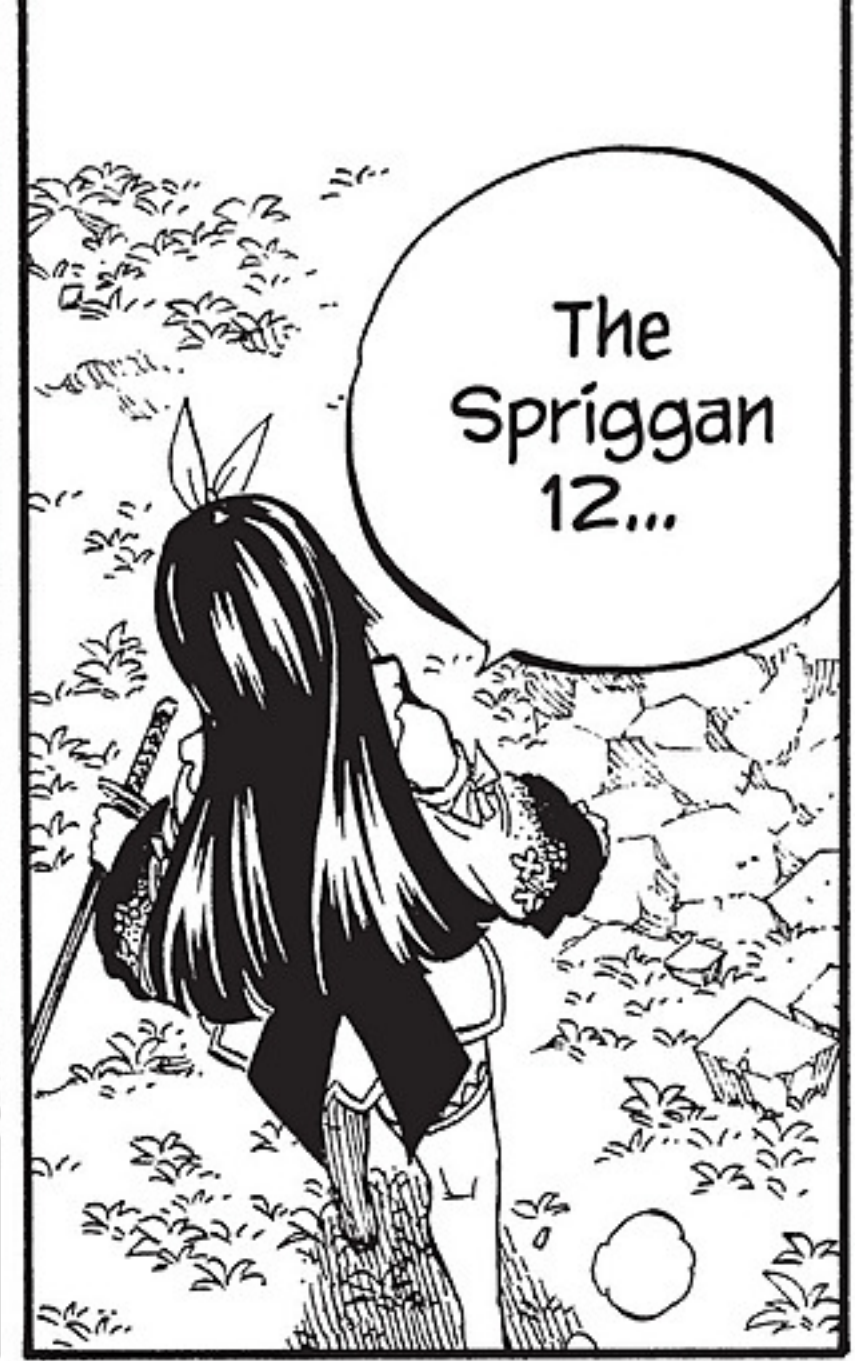




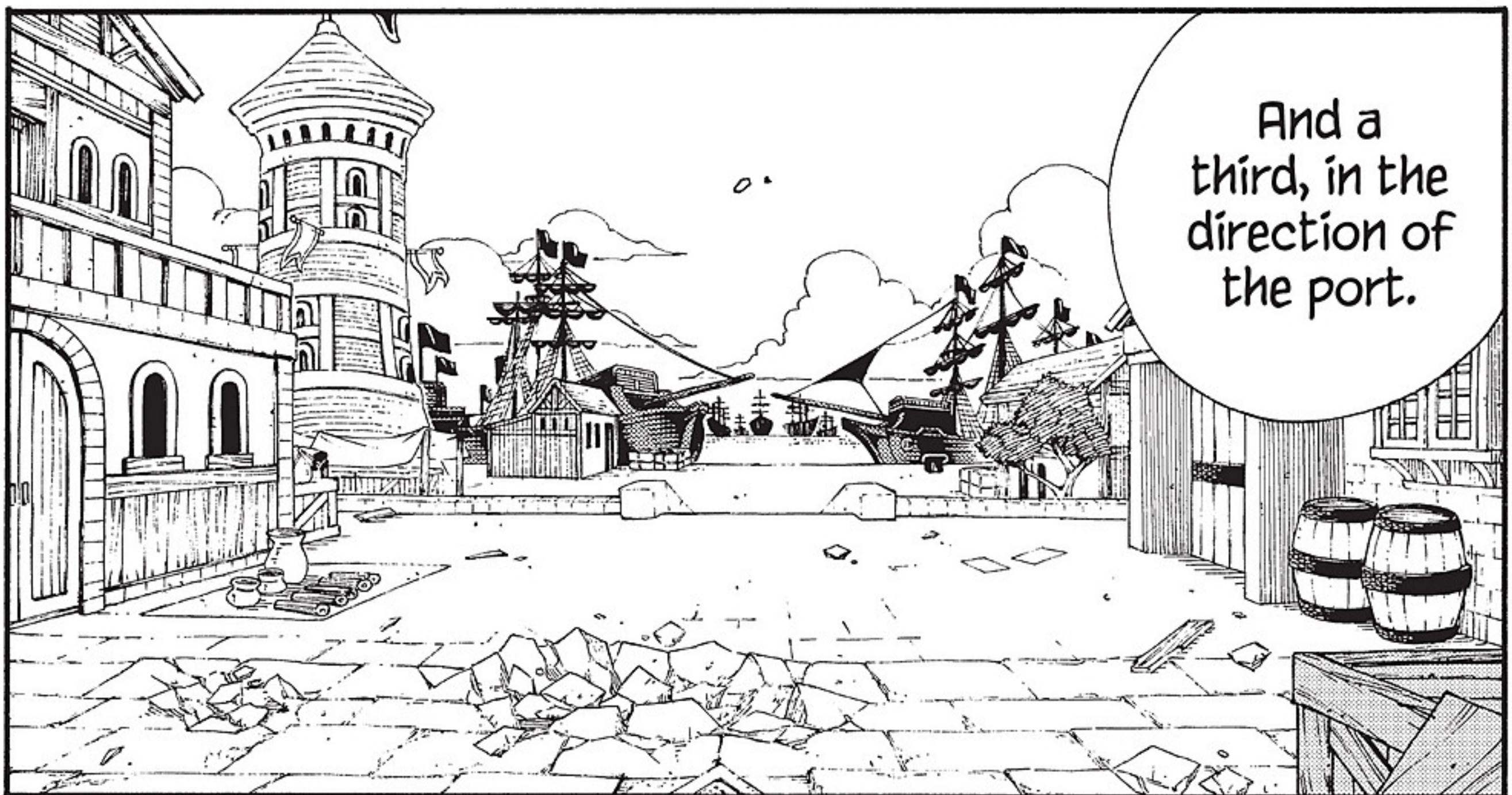
And the  
mechanical  
alchemist  
...



There's  
that  
swords-  
woman...



The  
Spriggan  
12...



And a  
third, in the  
direction of  
the port.

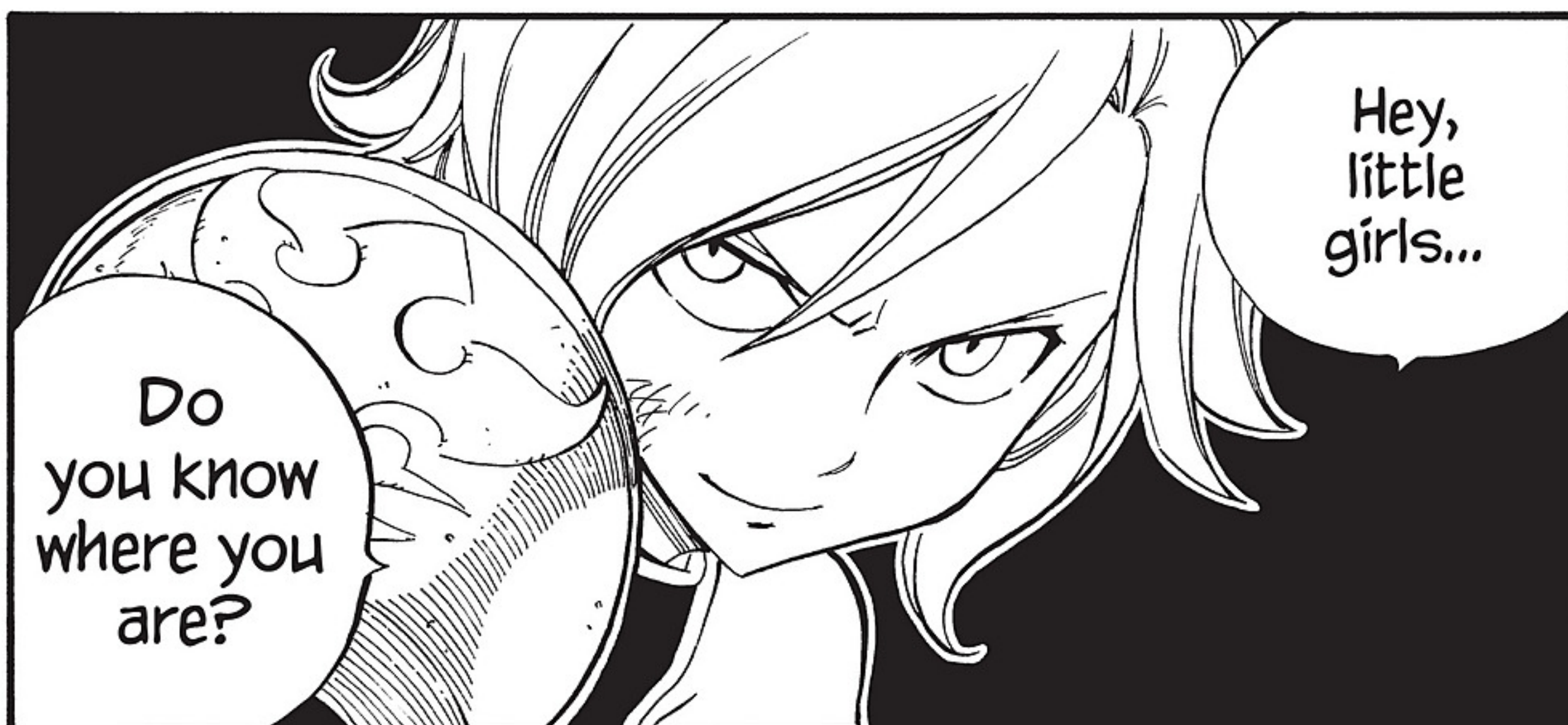
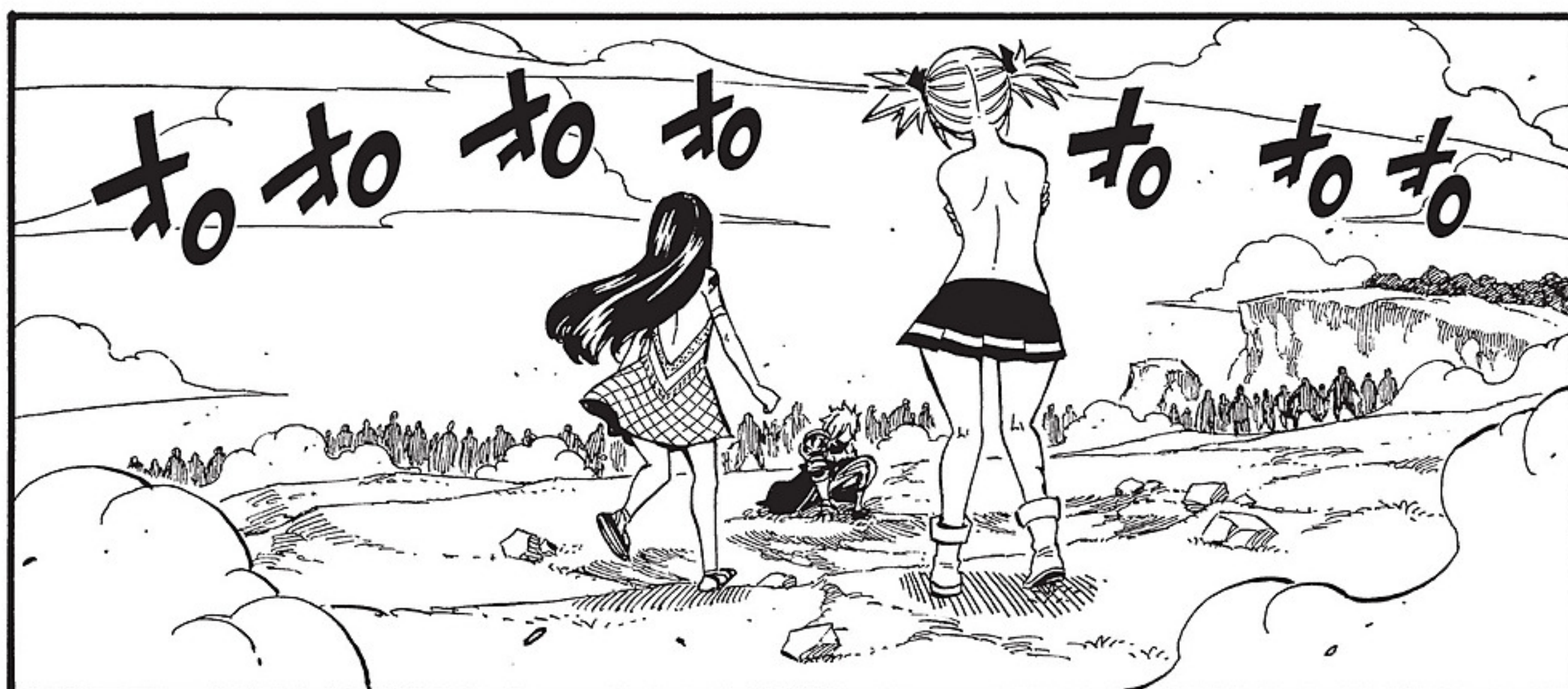


Yes,  
we can!

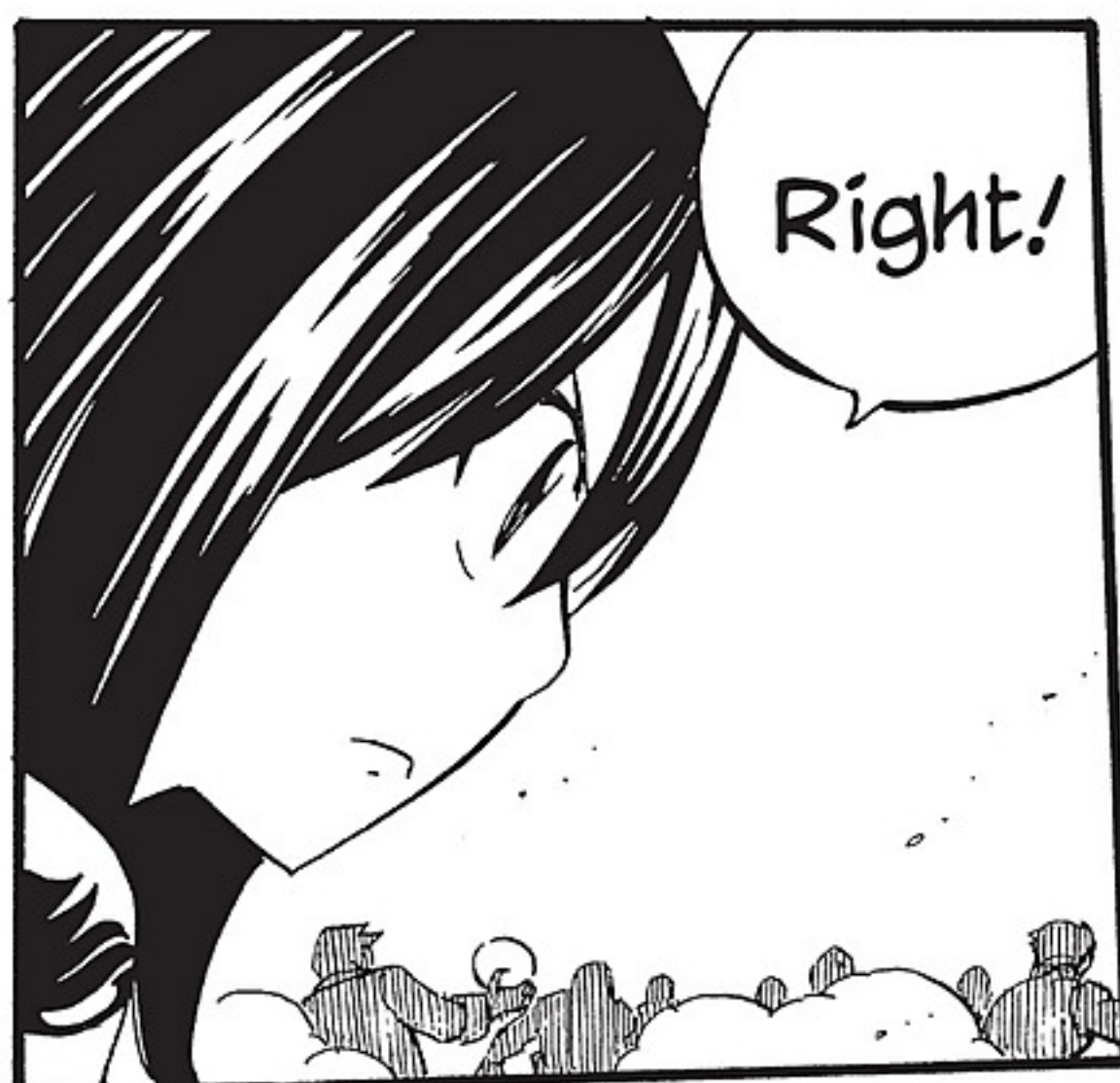


The two  
of us can  
eliminate  
that one.





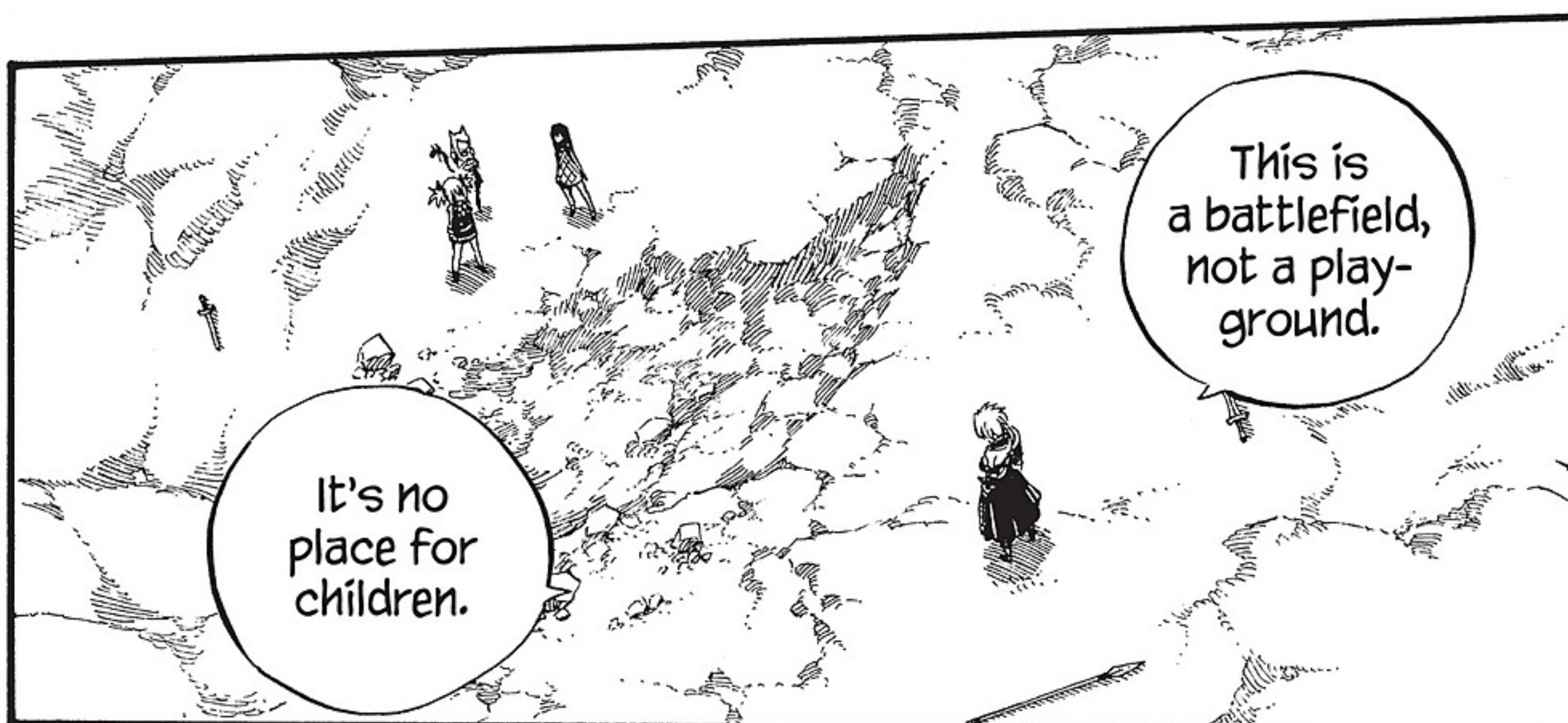




Right!



Be on  
your guard! I  
don't know what  
kind of magic  
she uses!



It's no  
place for  
children.

This is  
a battlefield,  
not a play-  
ground.



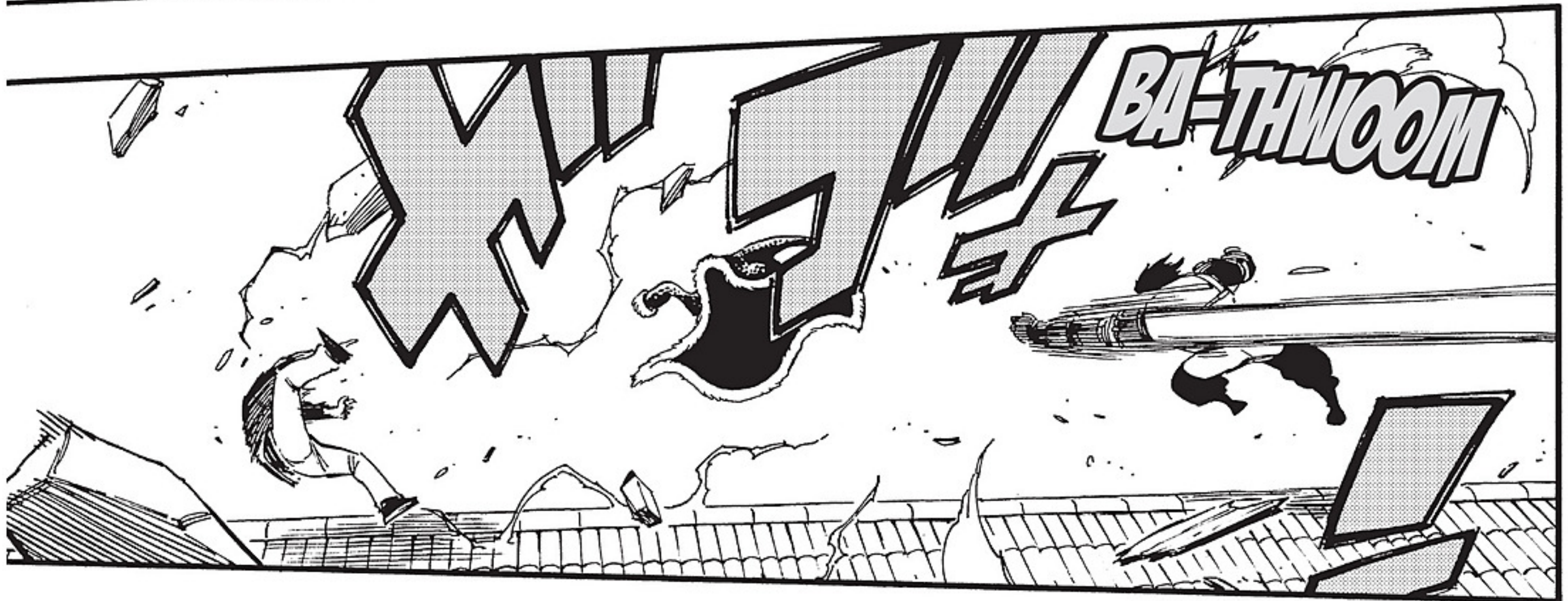
Don't expect  
me to pull my  
punches just  
because  
you're kids.



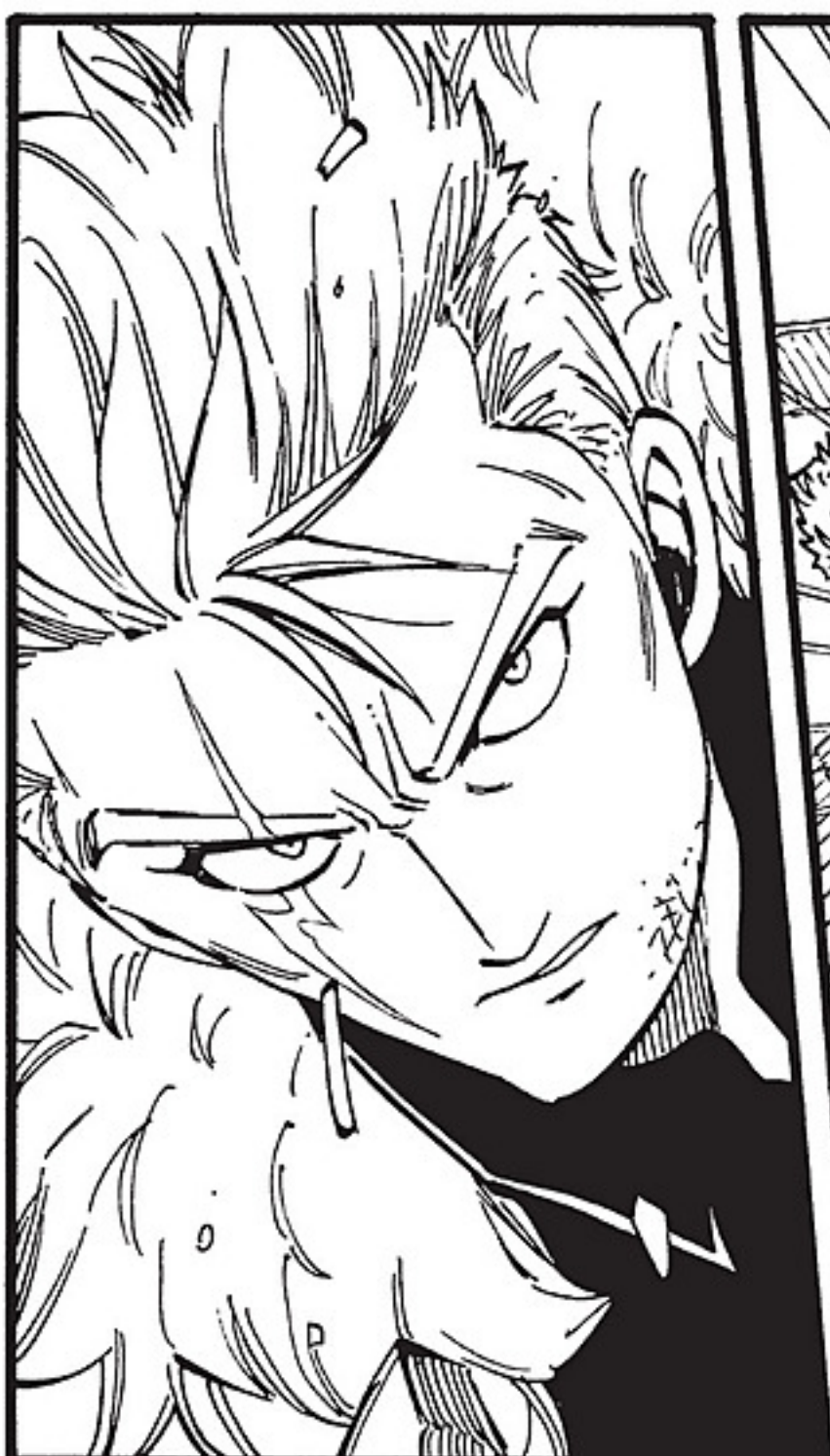
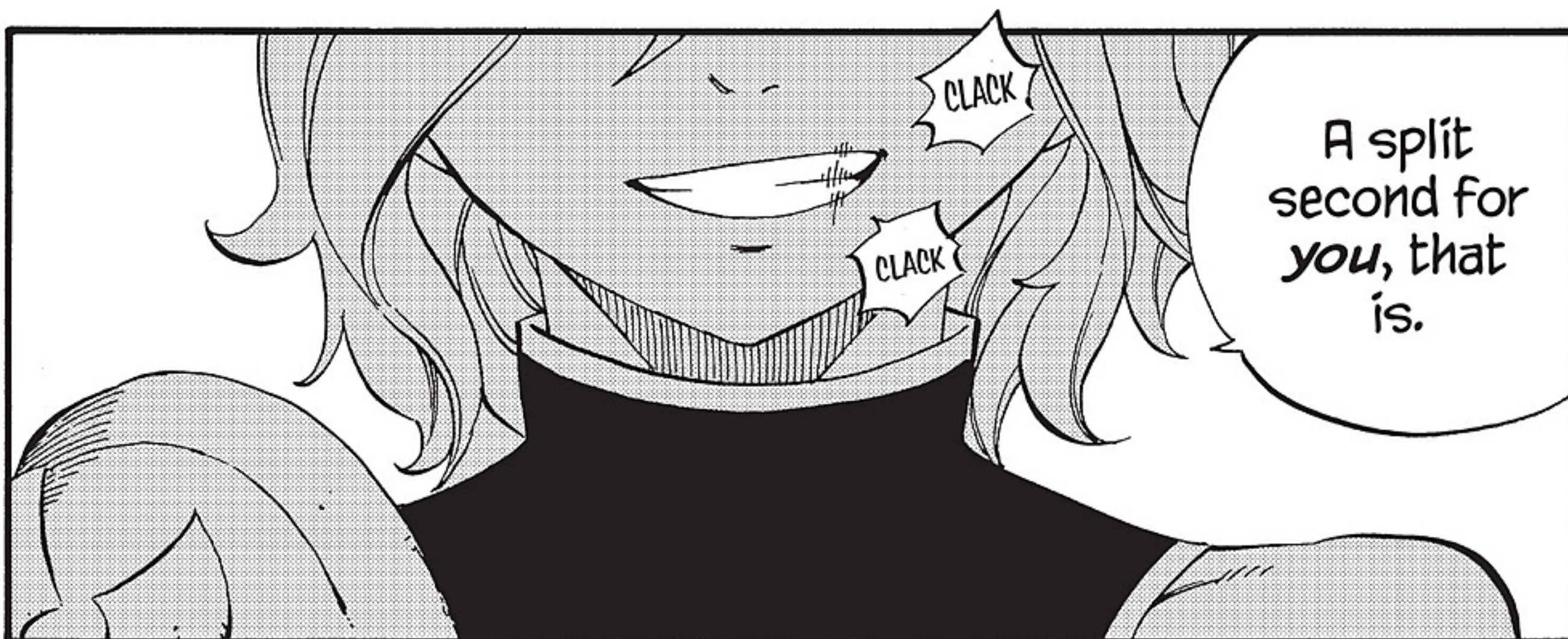
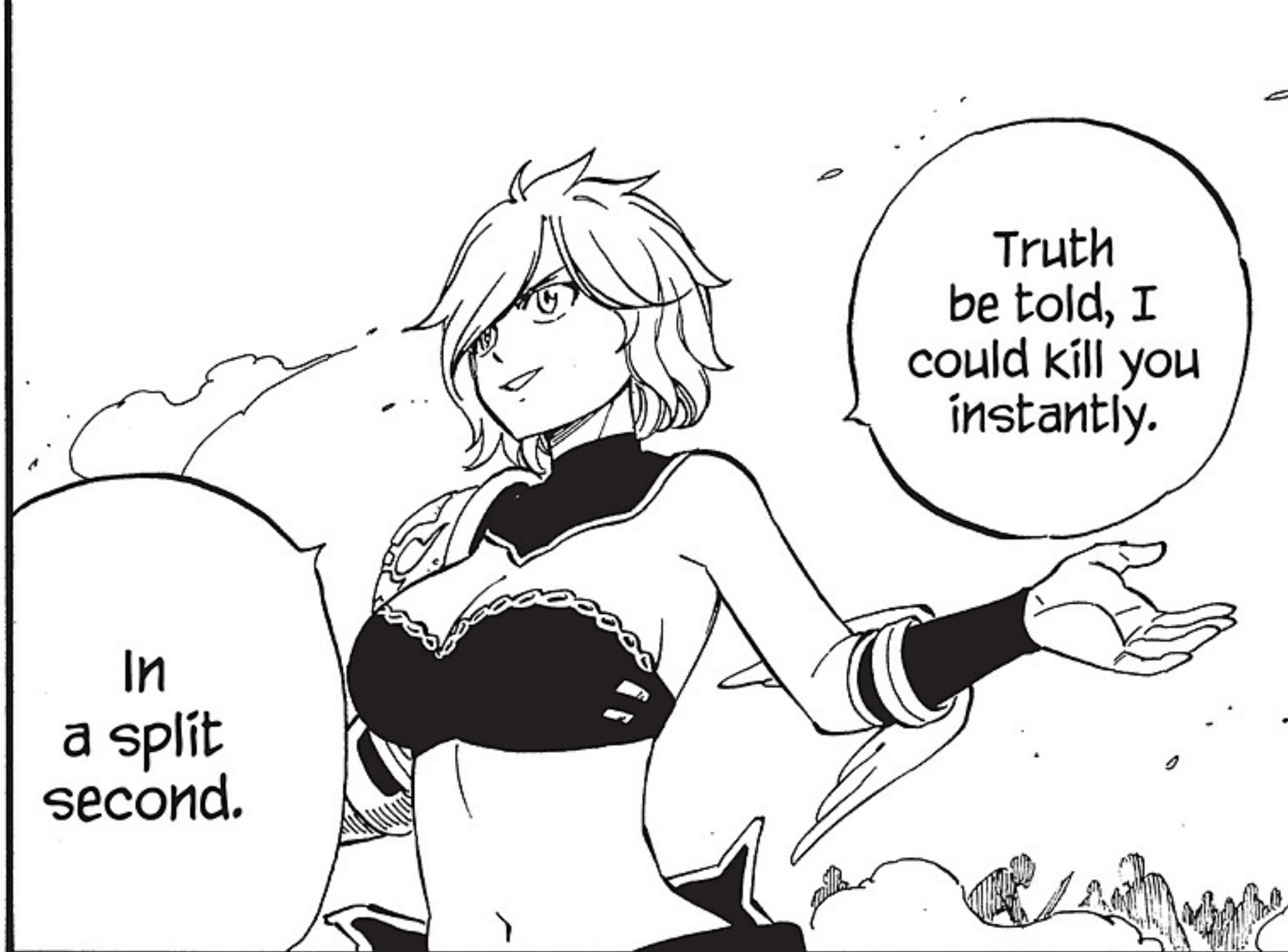
But  
we're going  
to return it  
to how it  
was!

This used  
to be a peaceful  
town! You people  
changed all  
that!

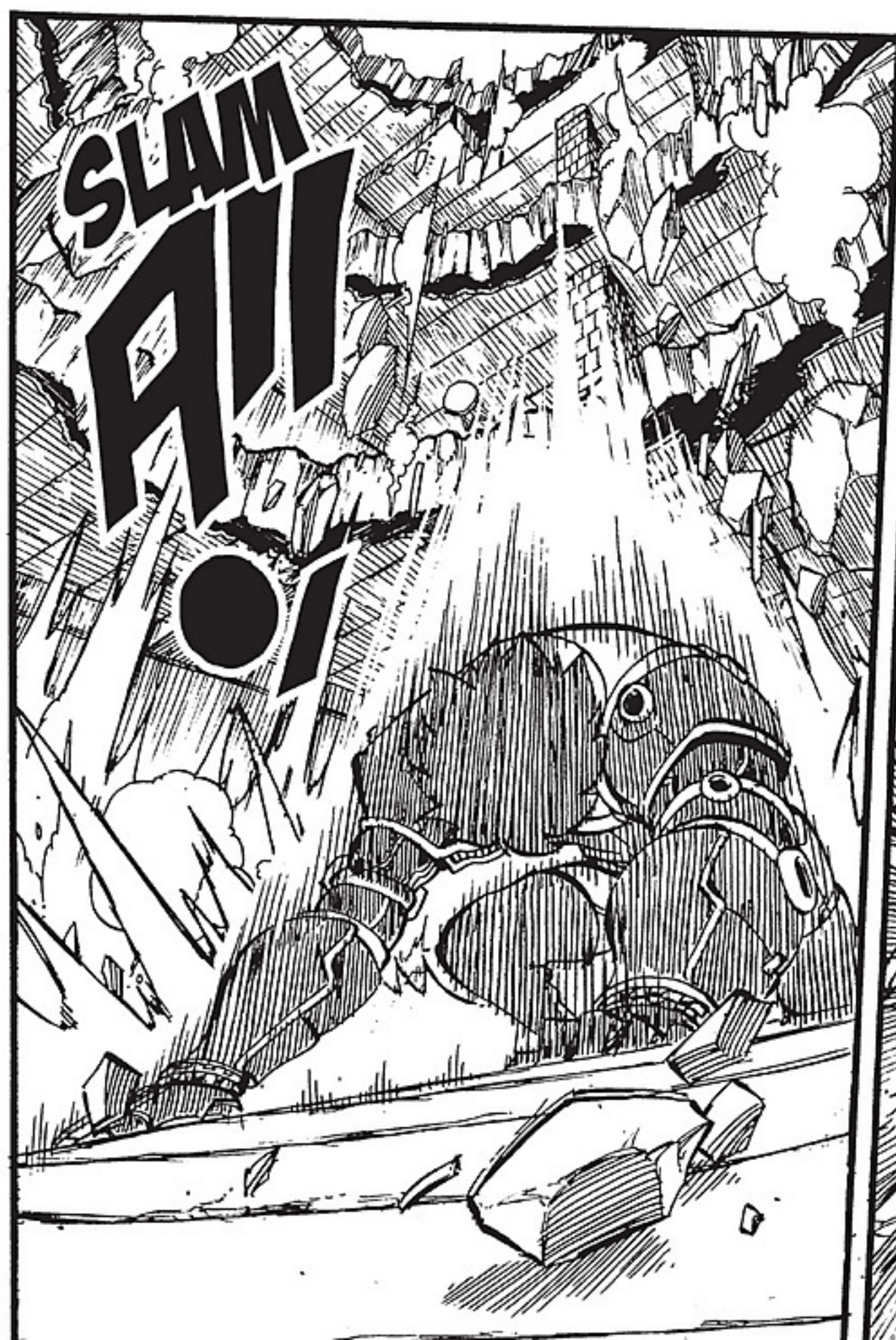




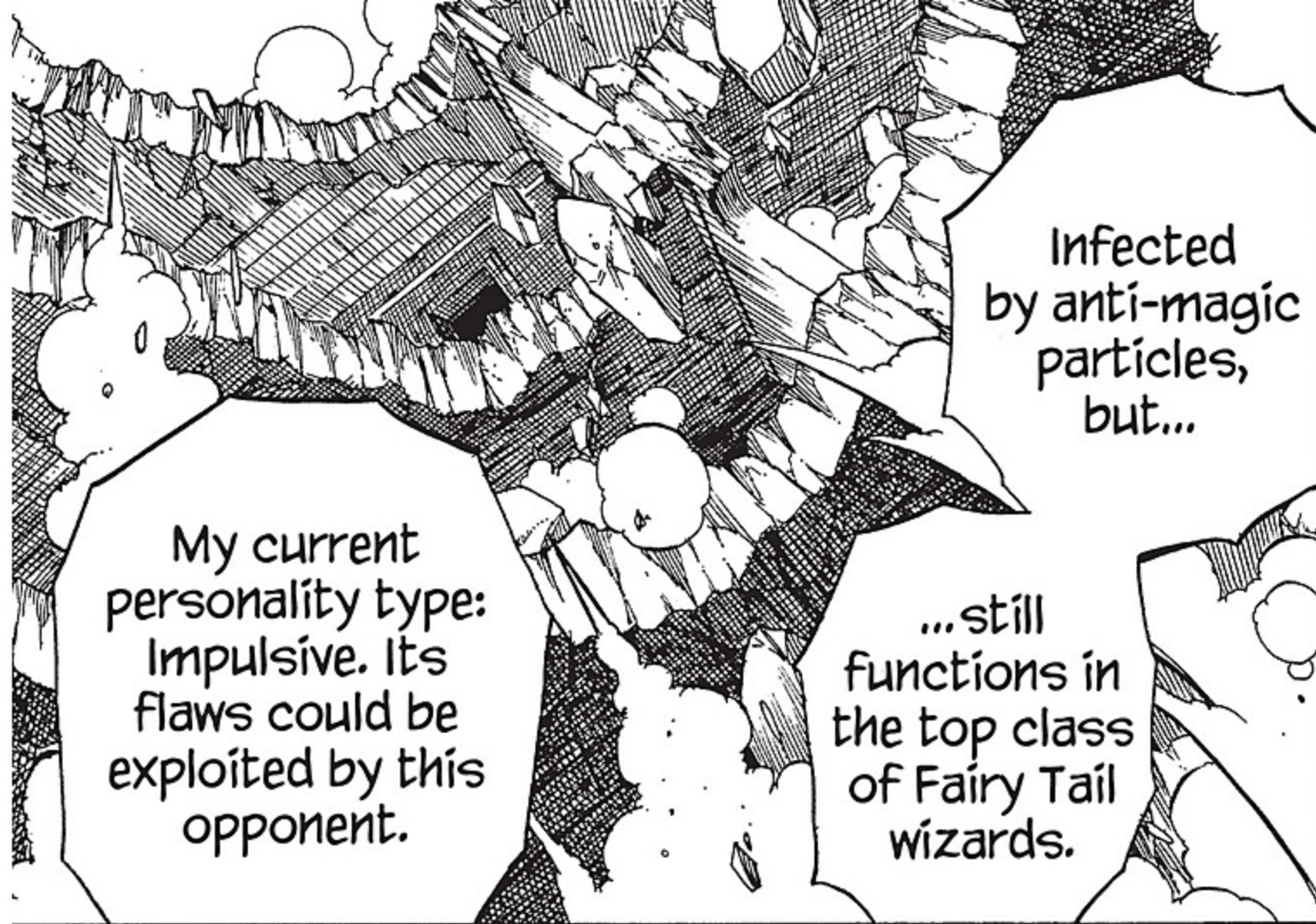








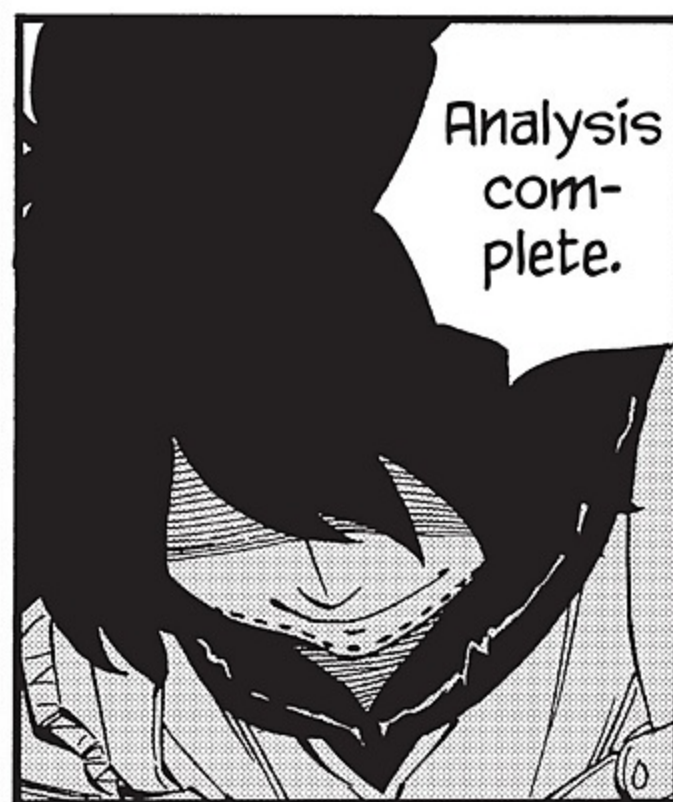




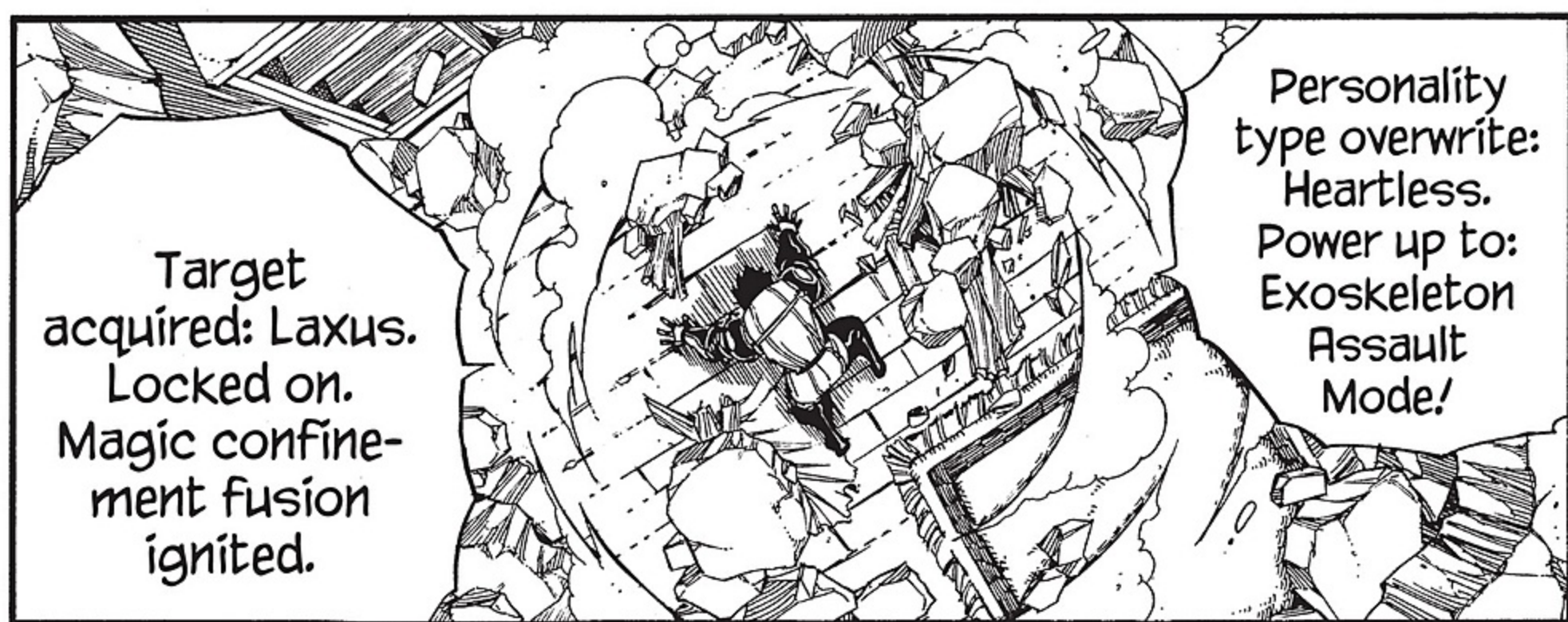
My current personality type: Impulsive. Its flaws could be exploited by this opponent.

Infected by anti-magic particles, but...

...still functions in the top class of Fairy Tail wizards.



Analysis complete.



Target acquired: Laxus. Locked on. Magic confinement fusion ignited.

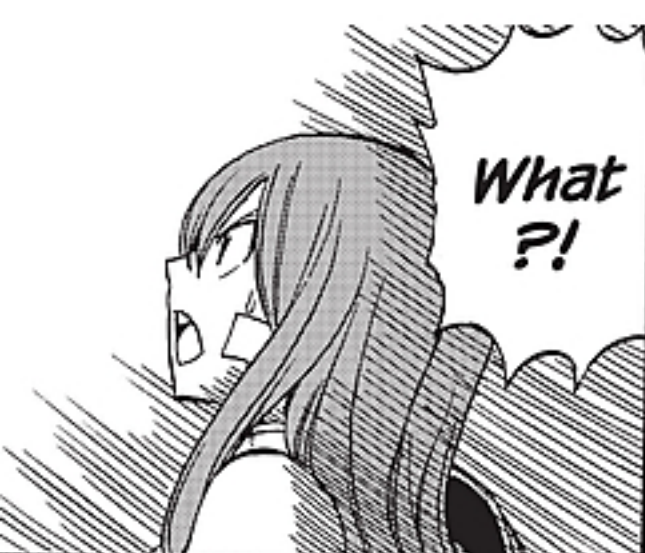
Personality type overwrite: Heartless. Power up to: Exoskeleton Assault Mode!



Estimated time until extermination...

90 seconds.











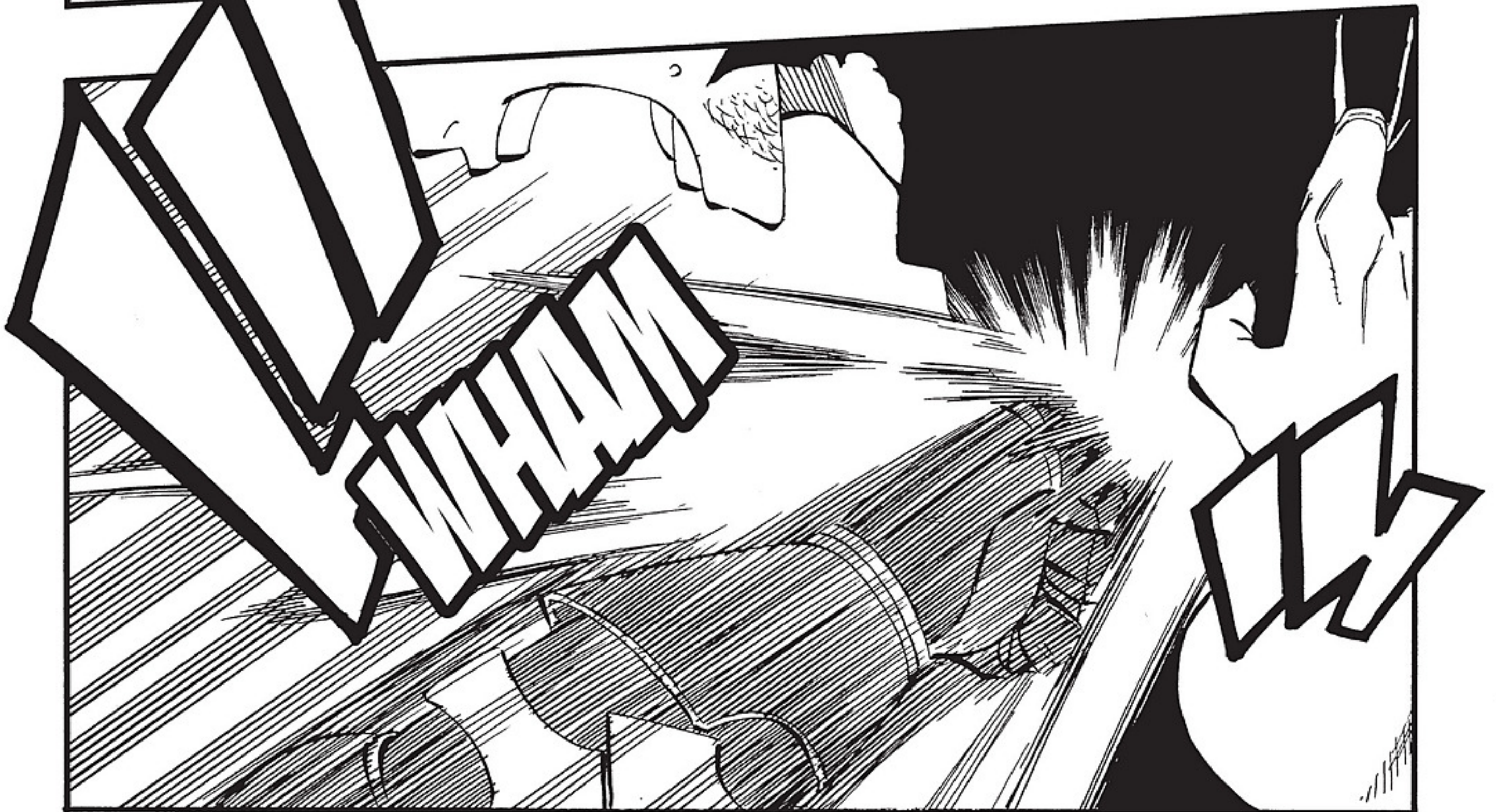
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

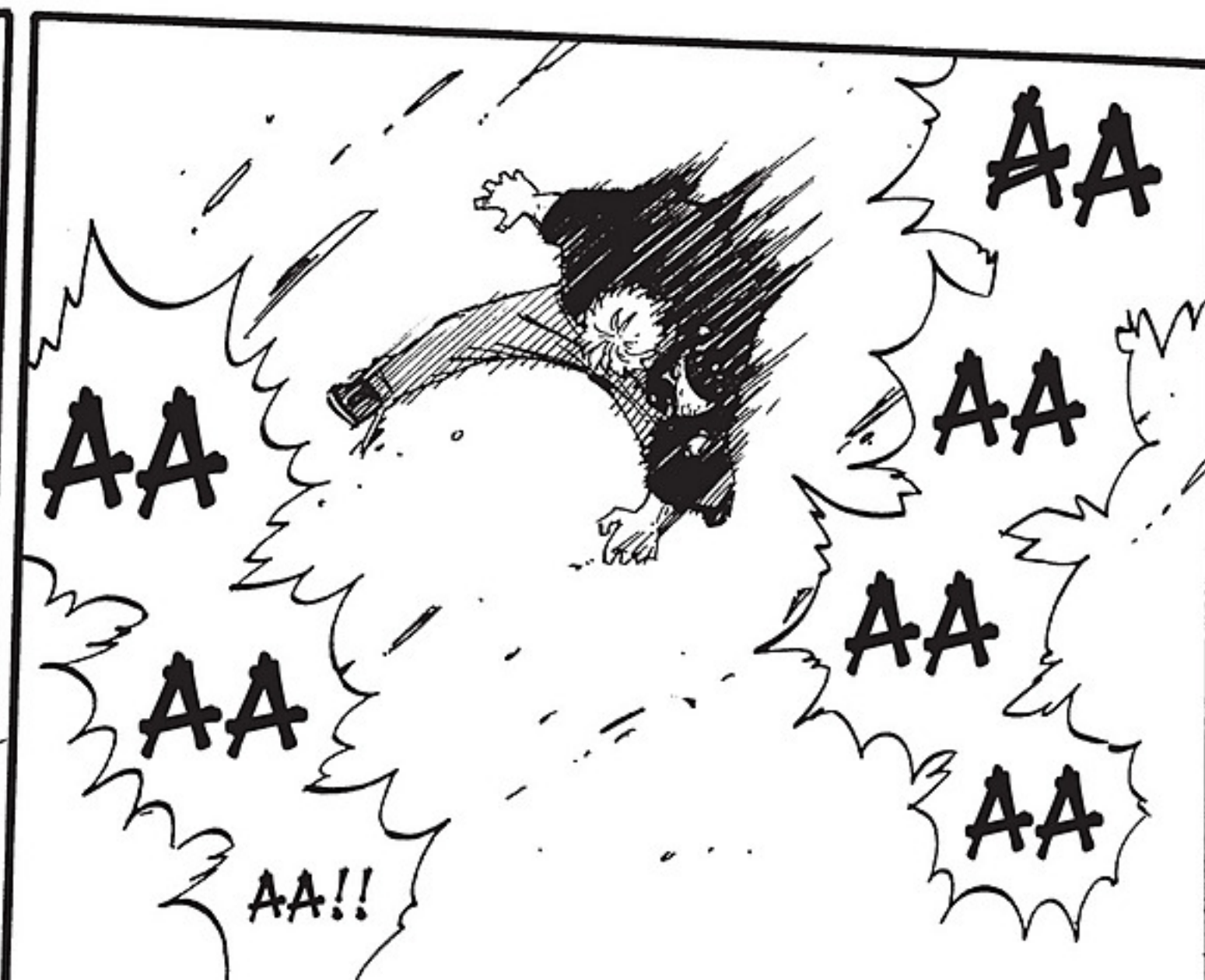
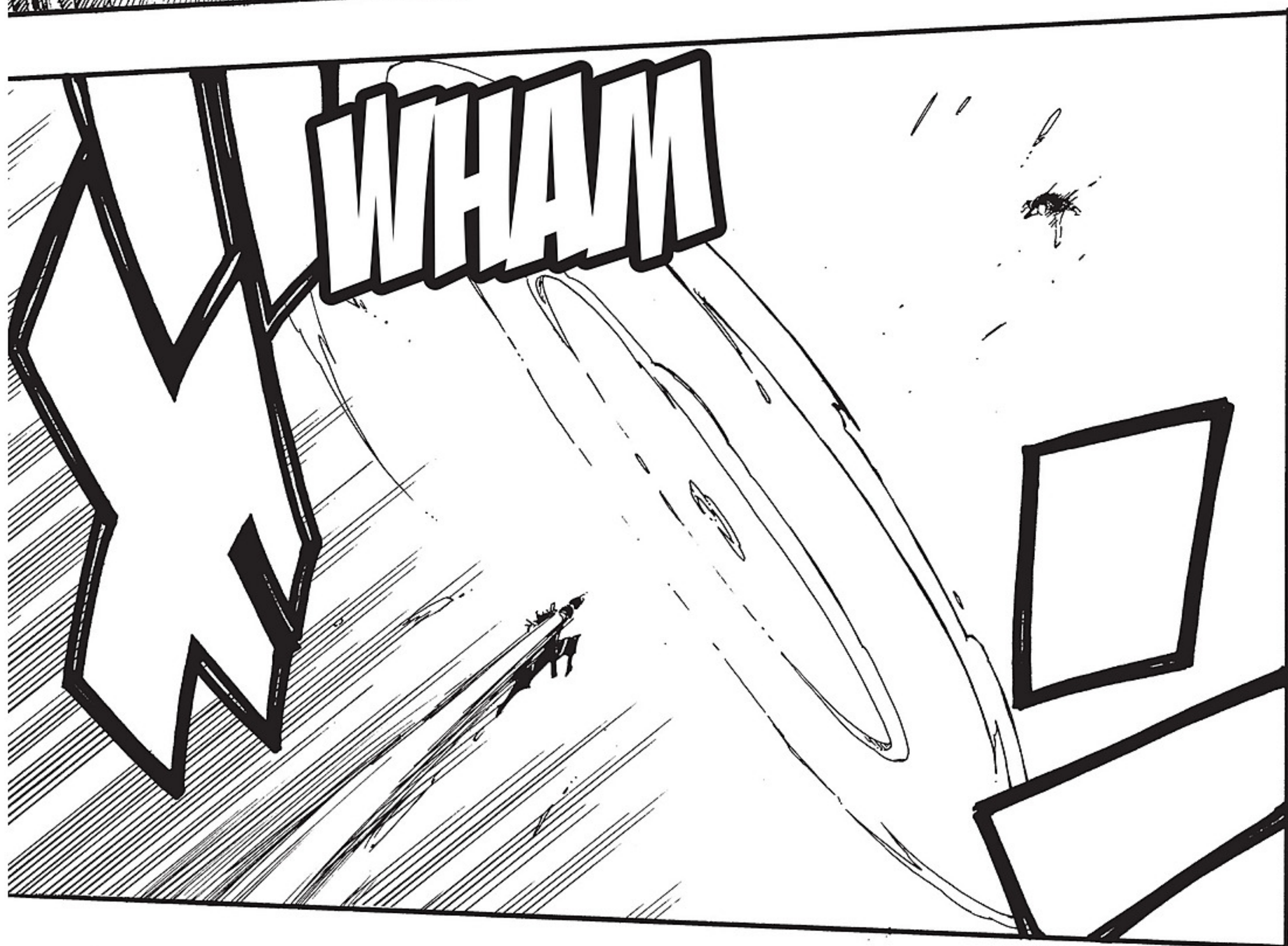
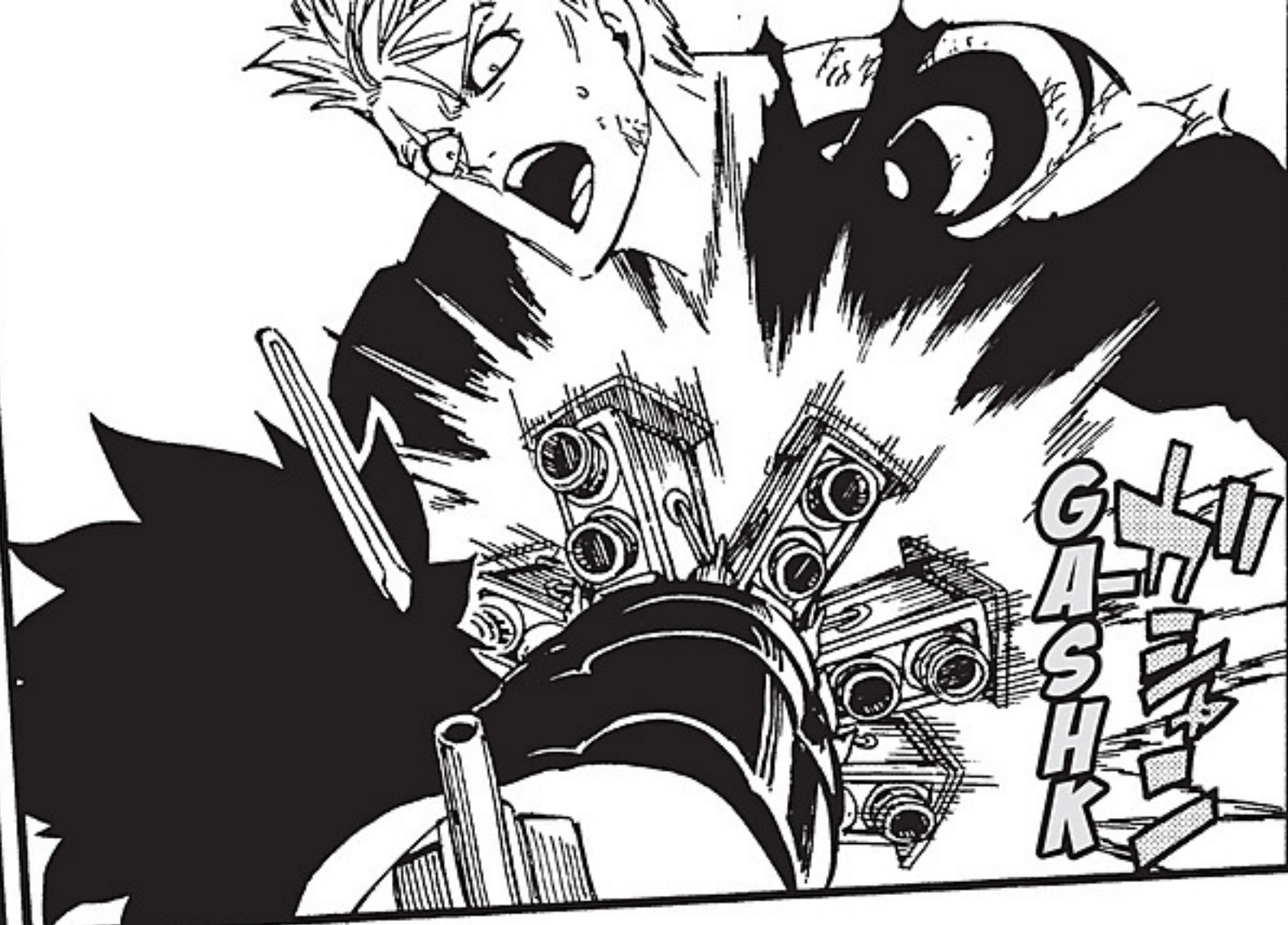
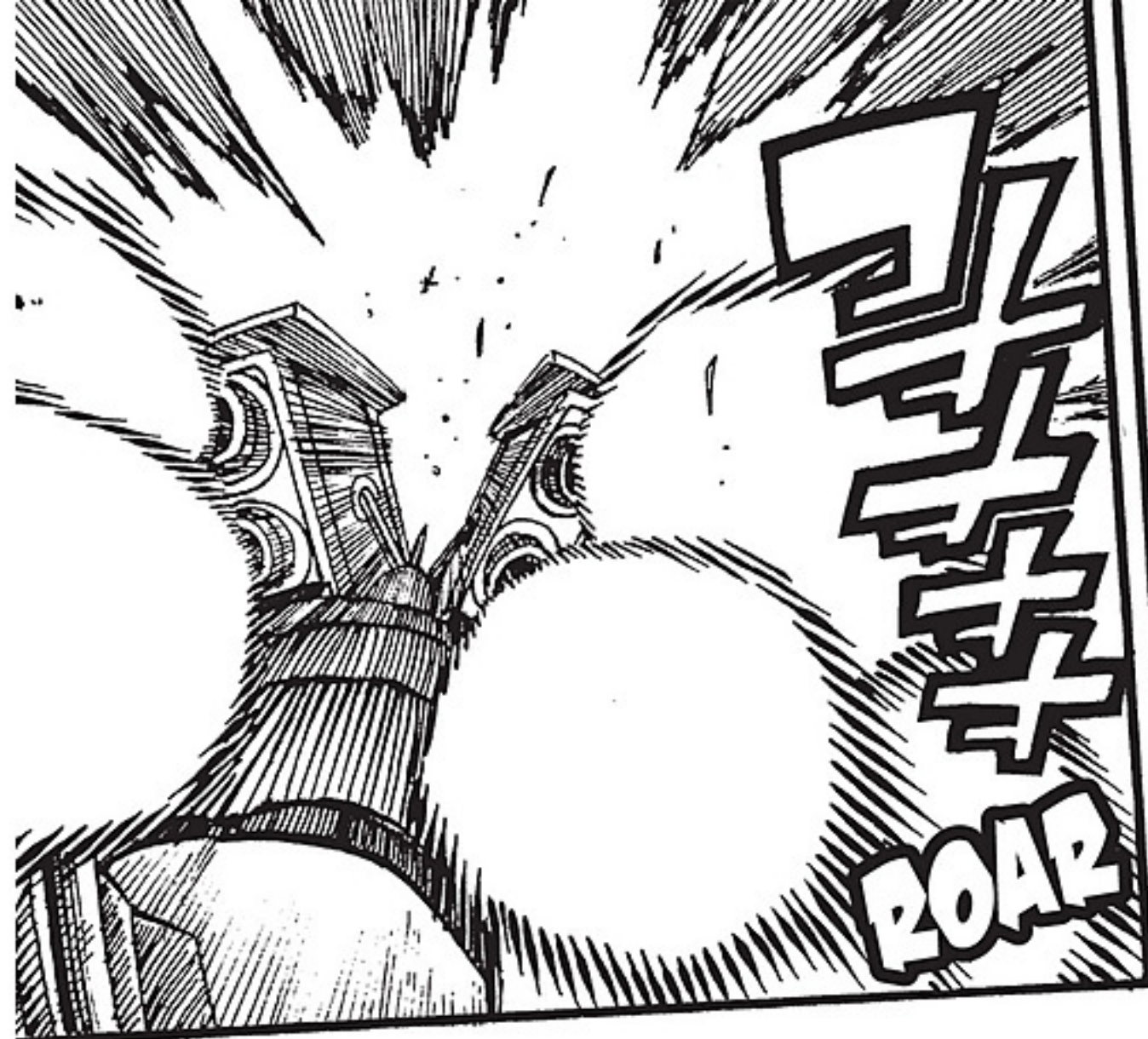
## Chapter 473: Red Lightning



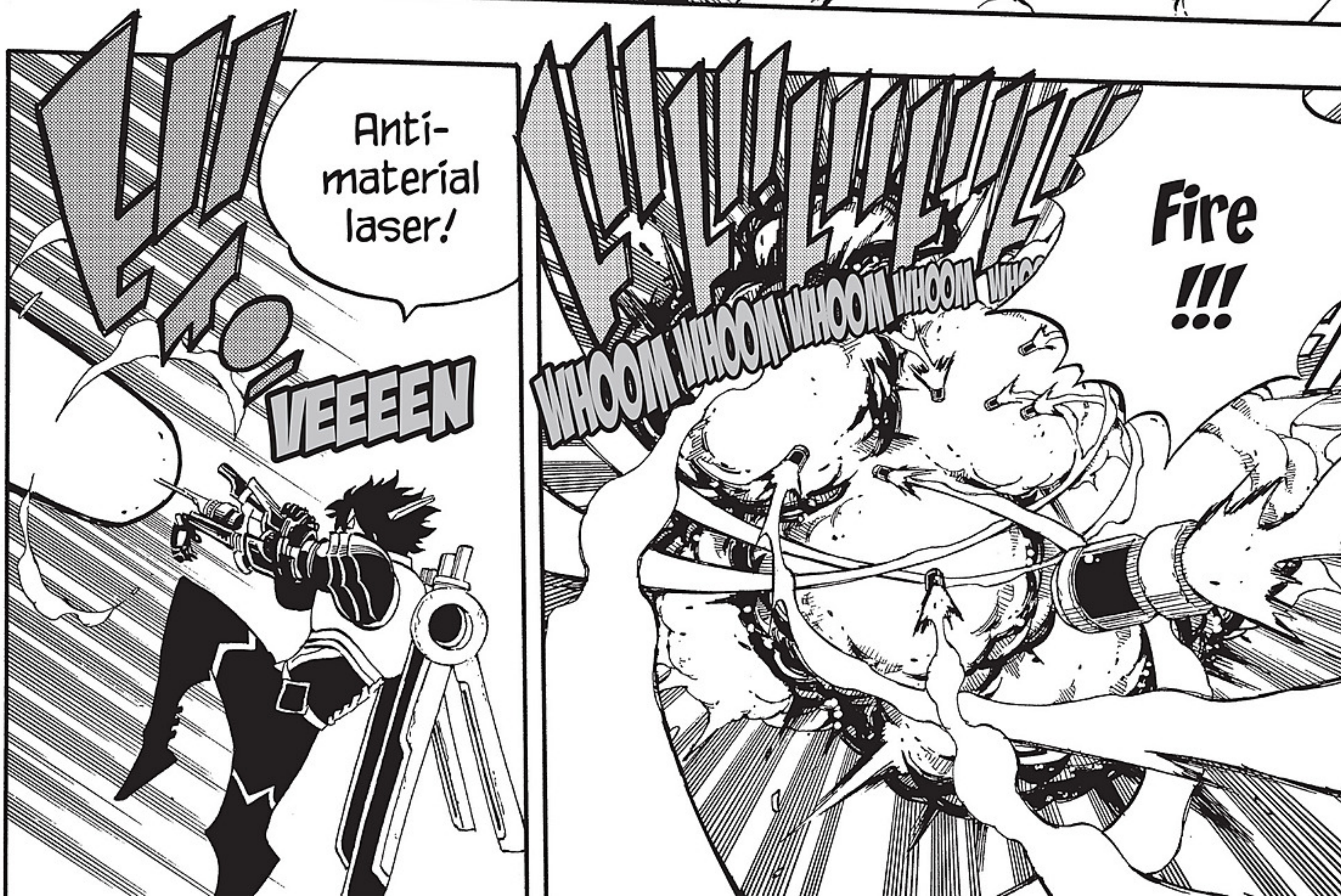
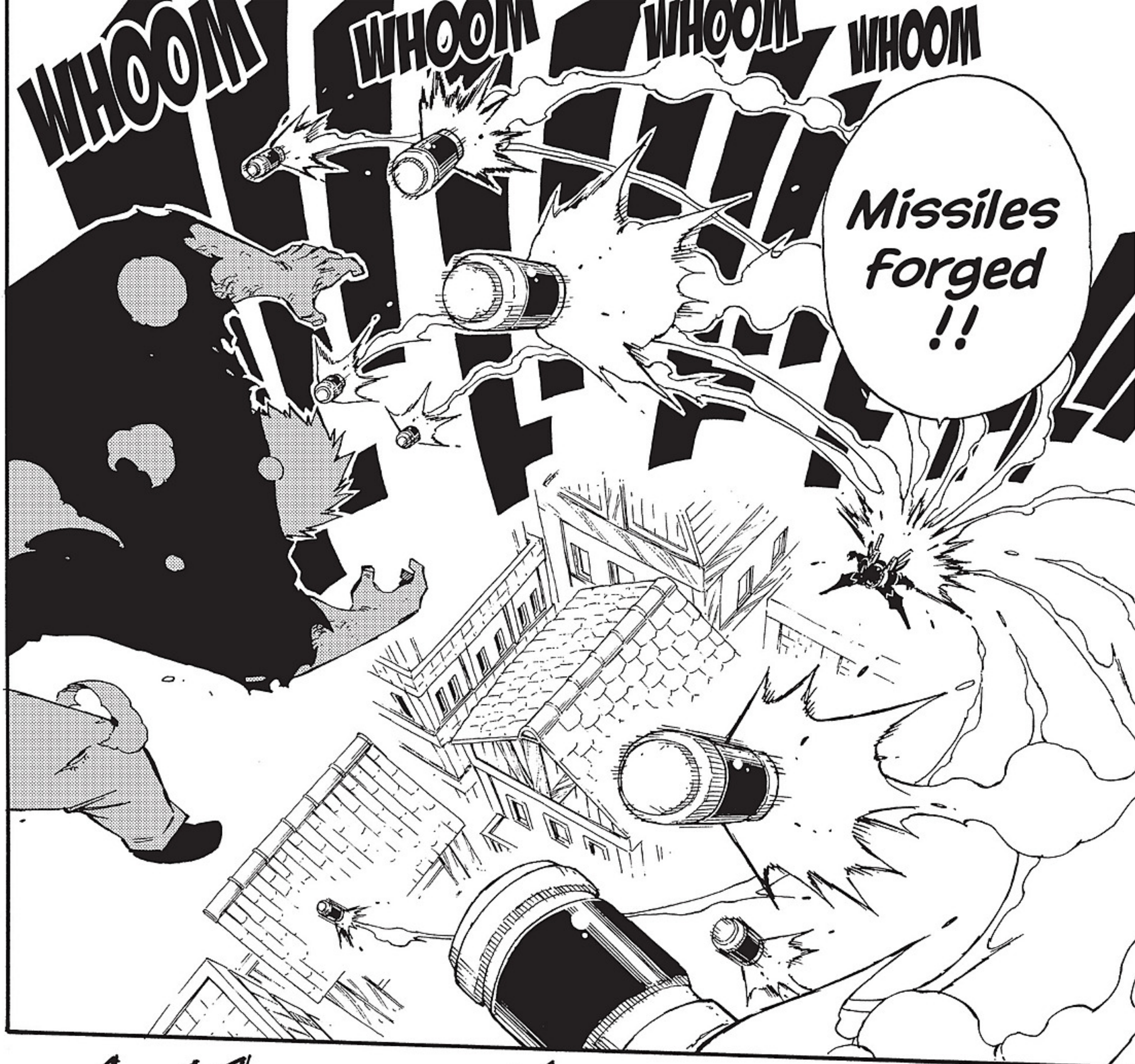




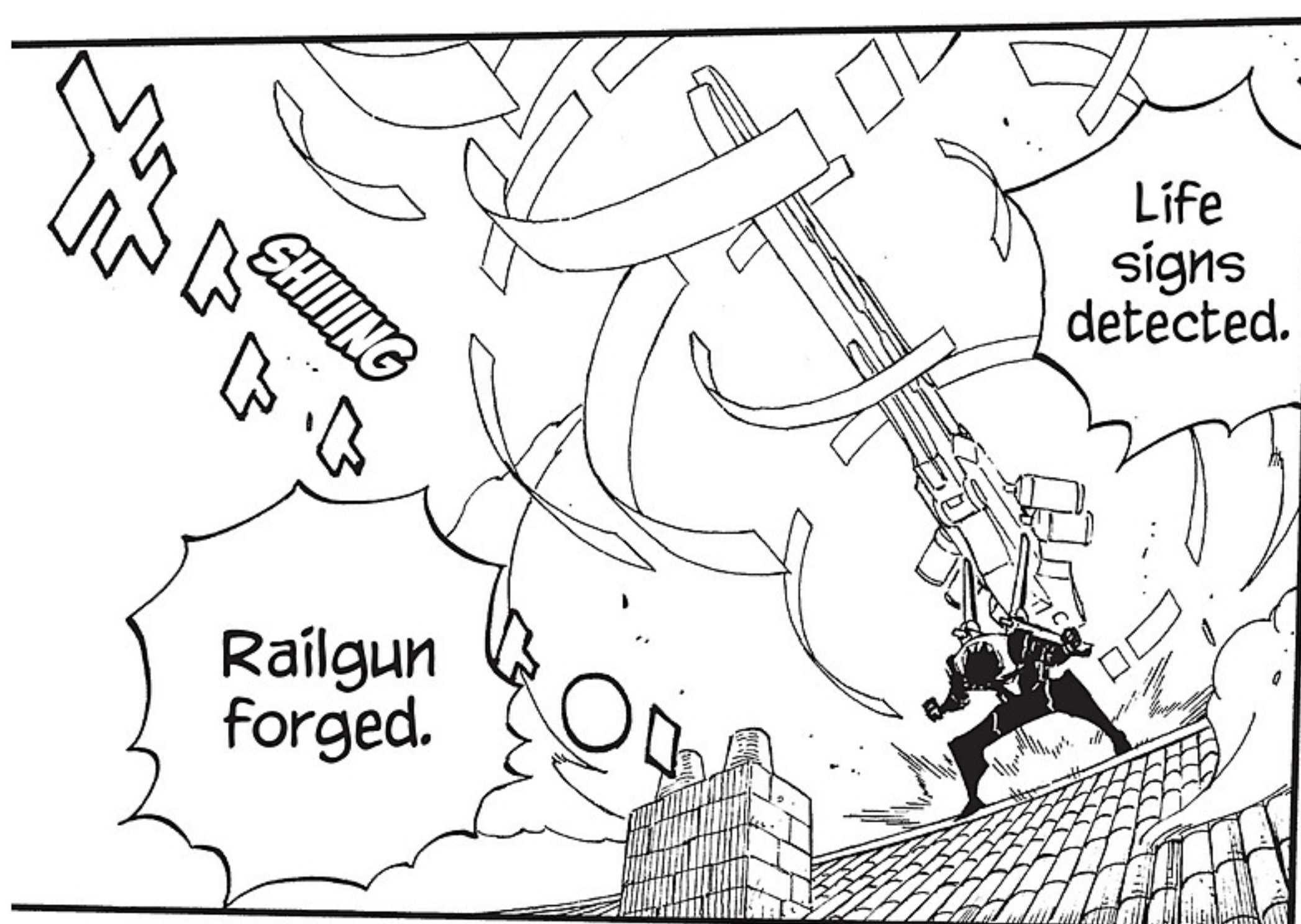




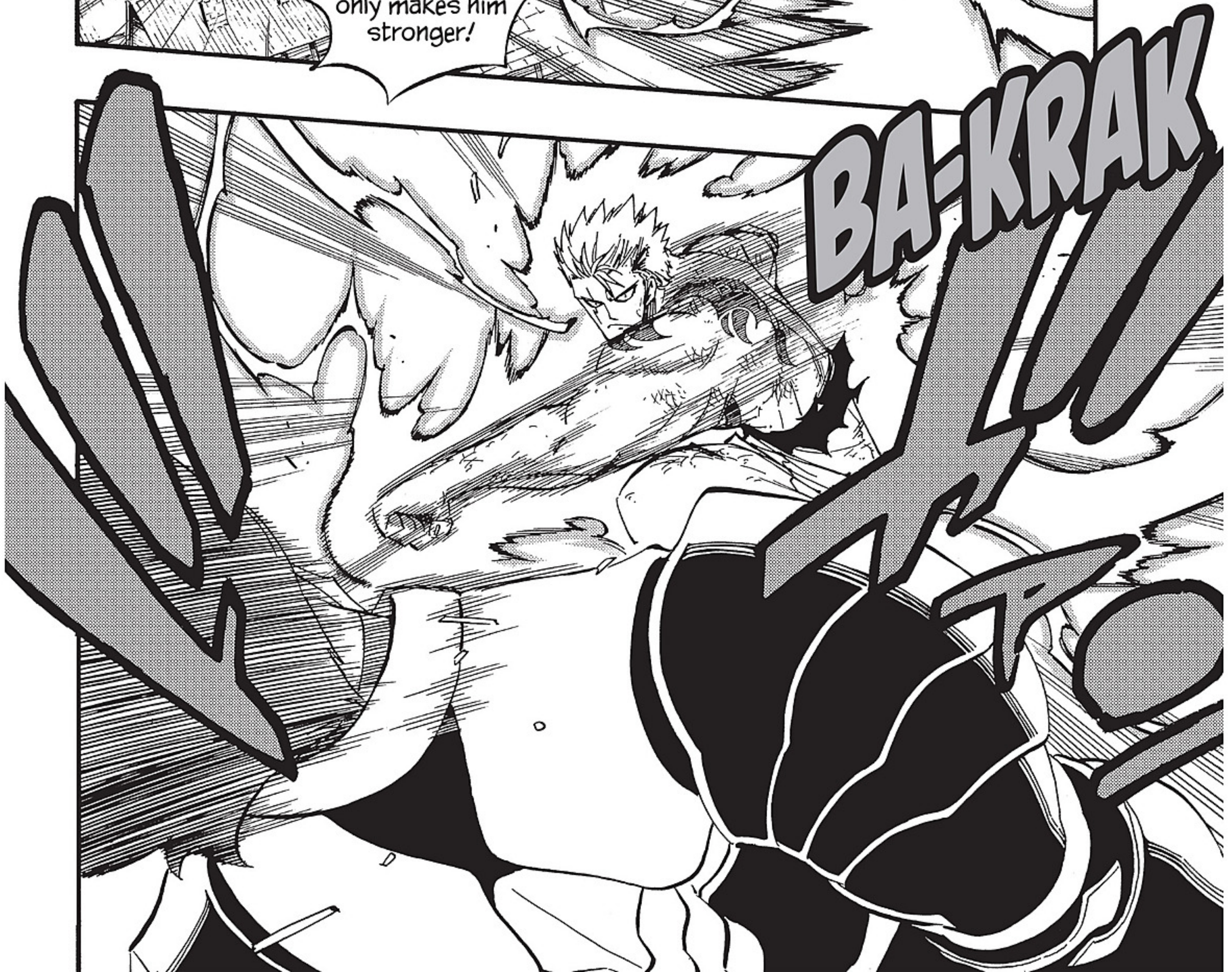
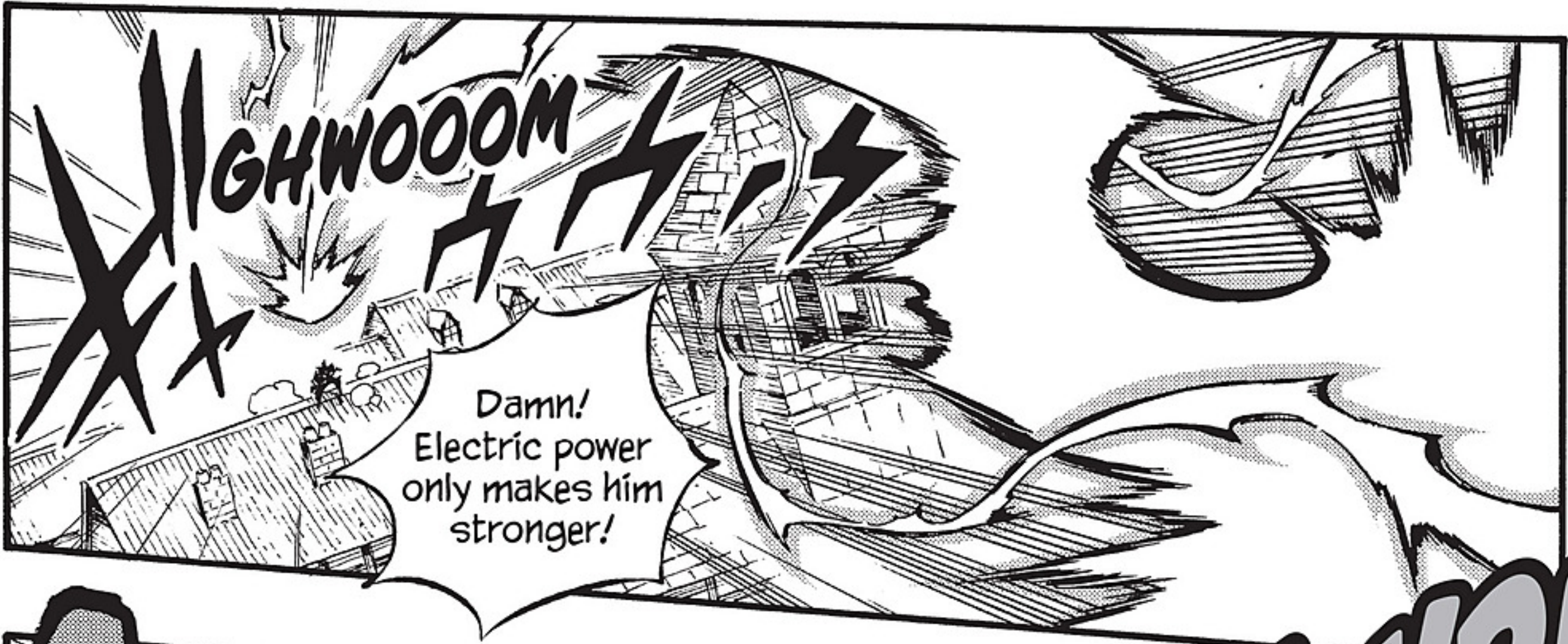




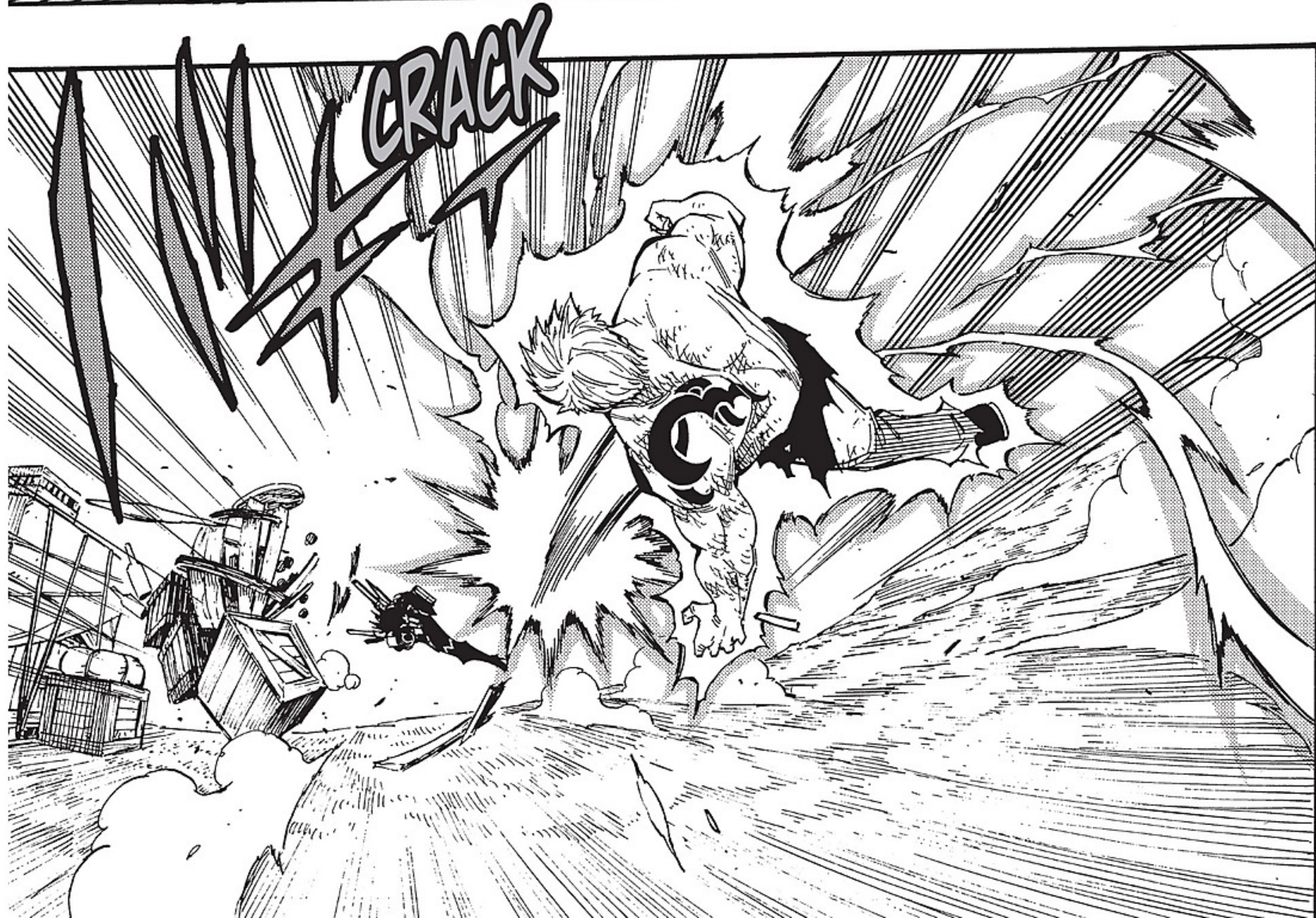




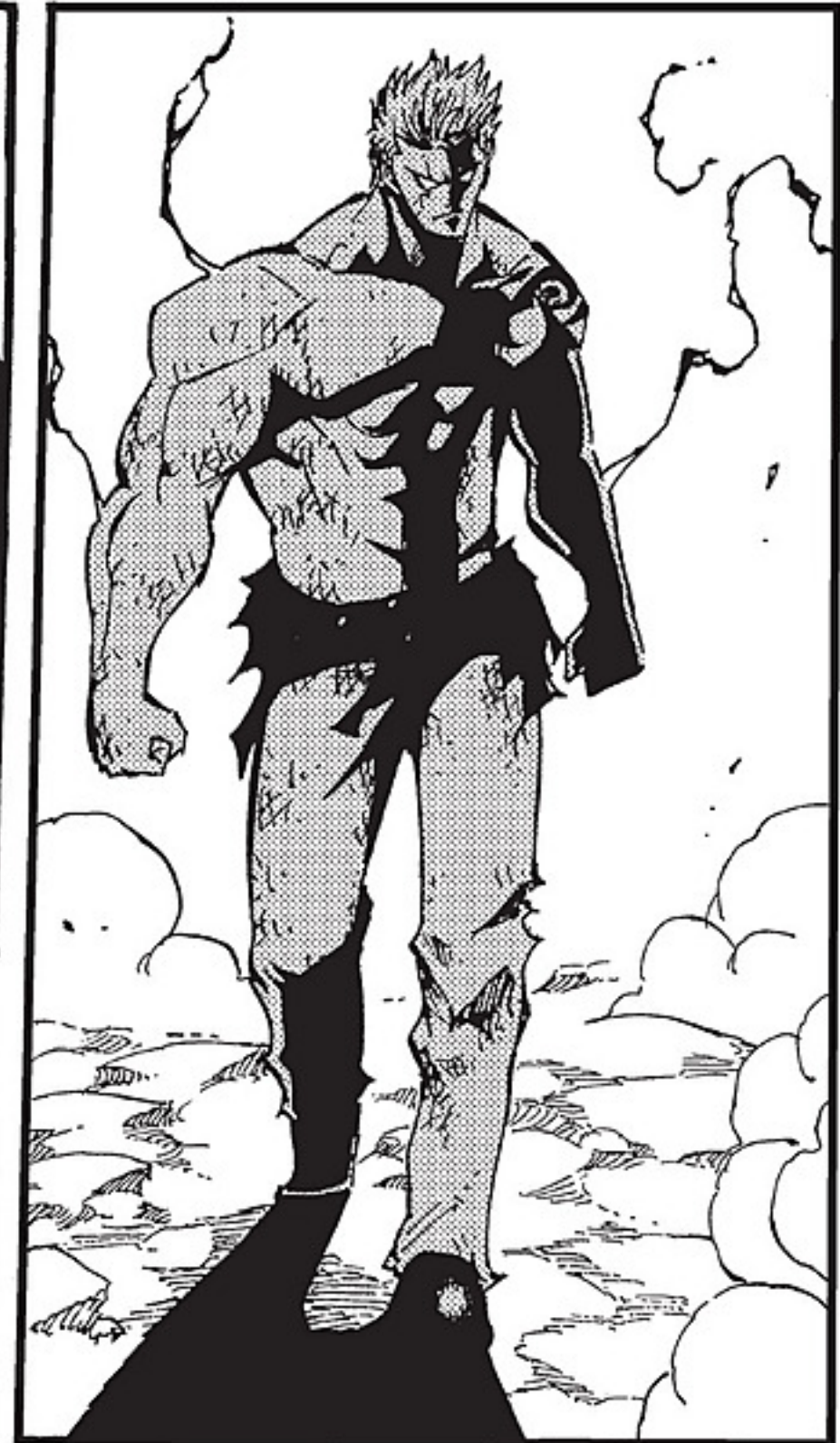
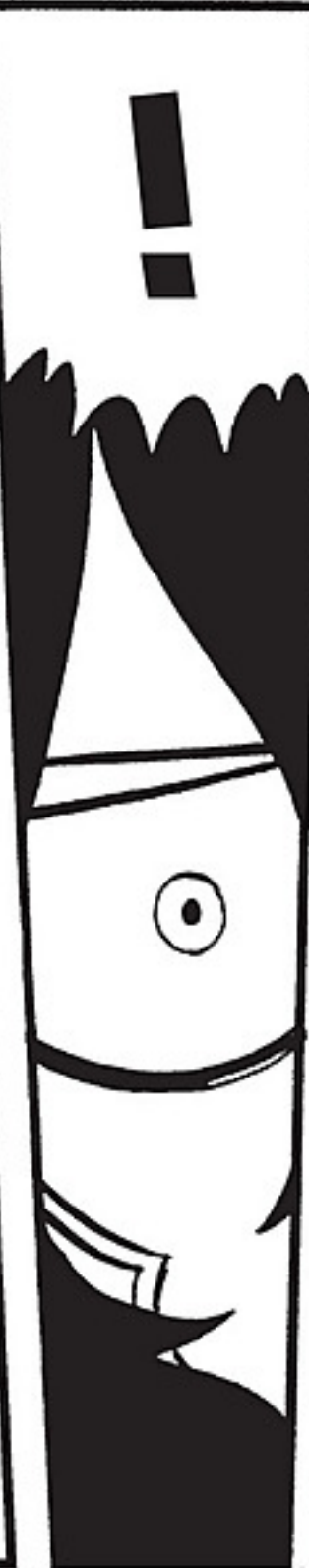
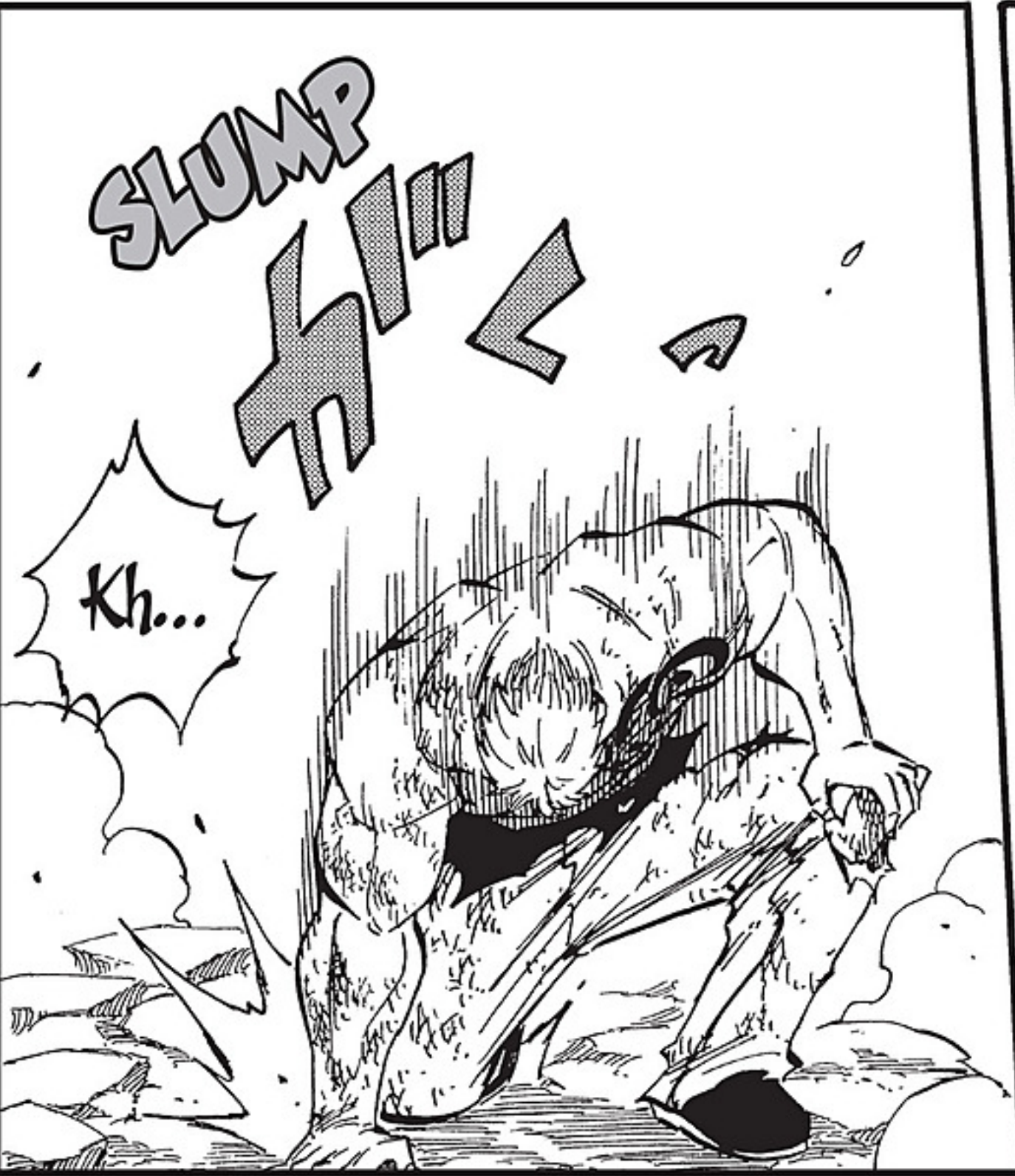
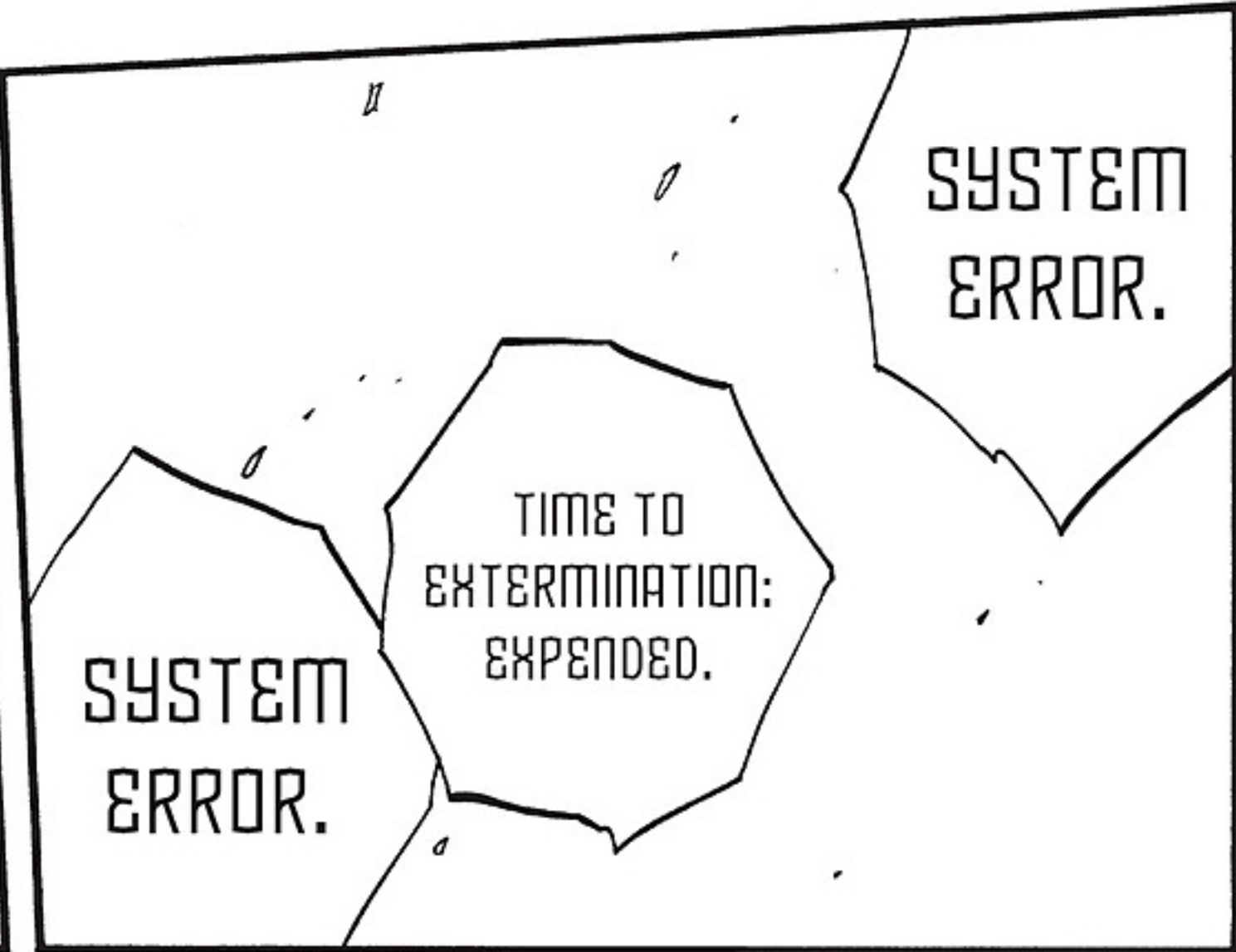
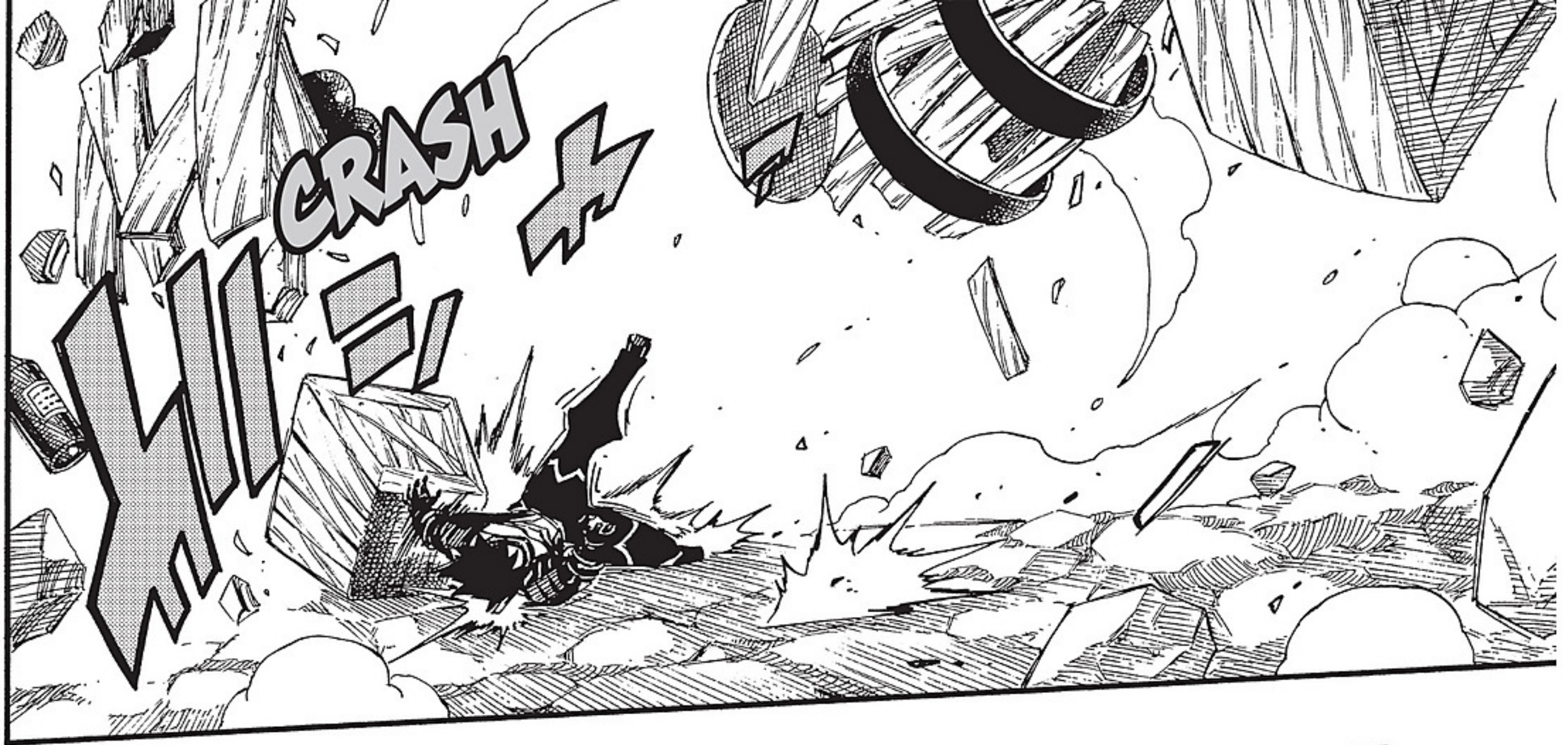




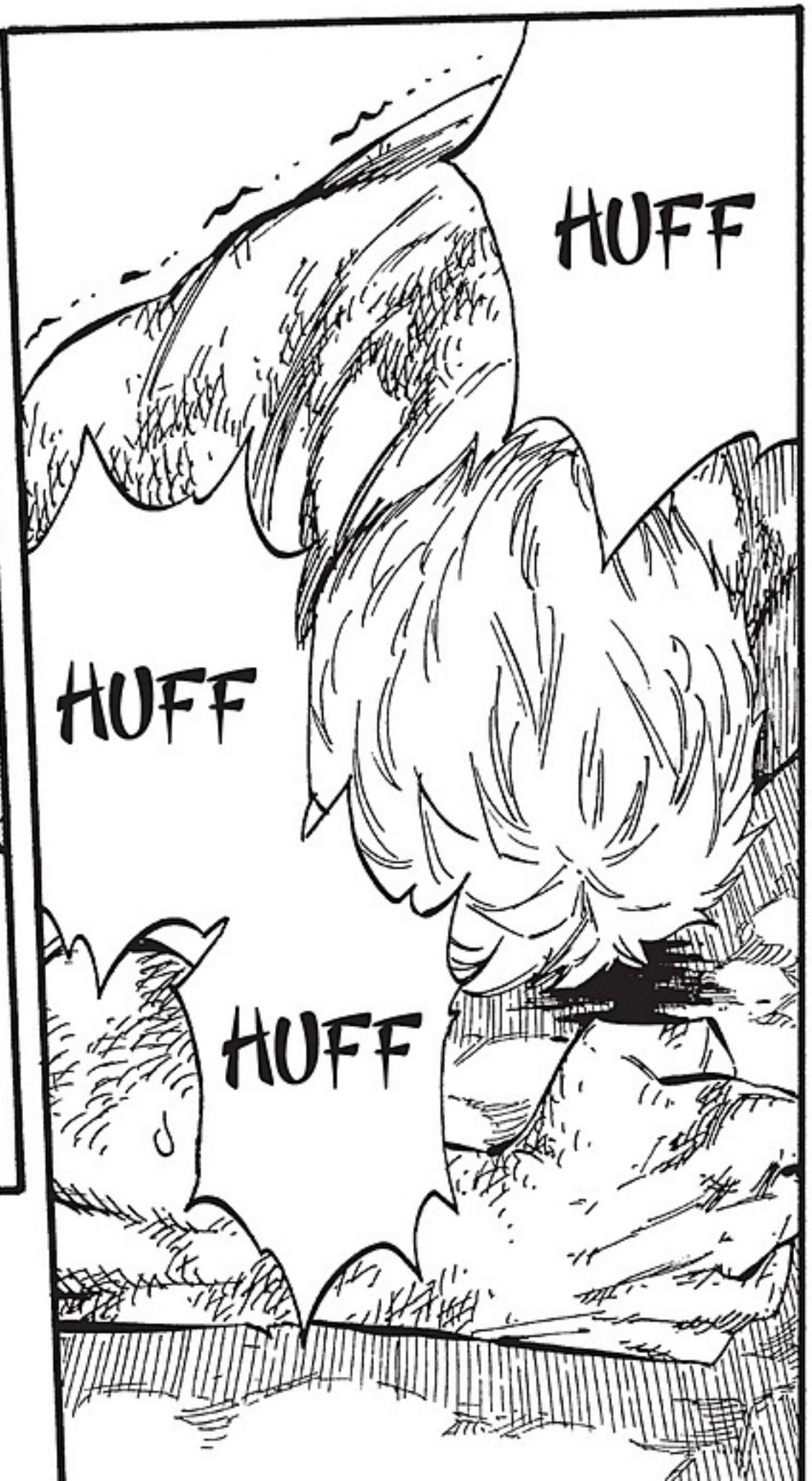
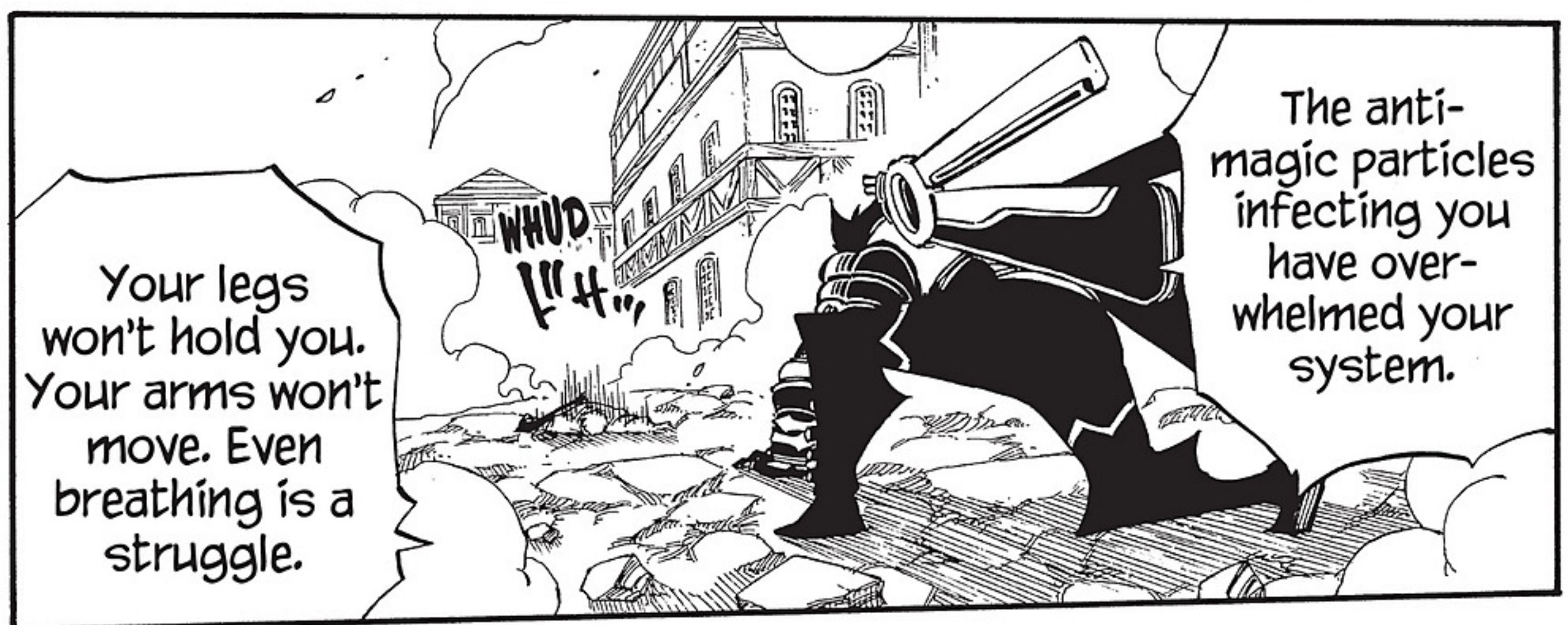
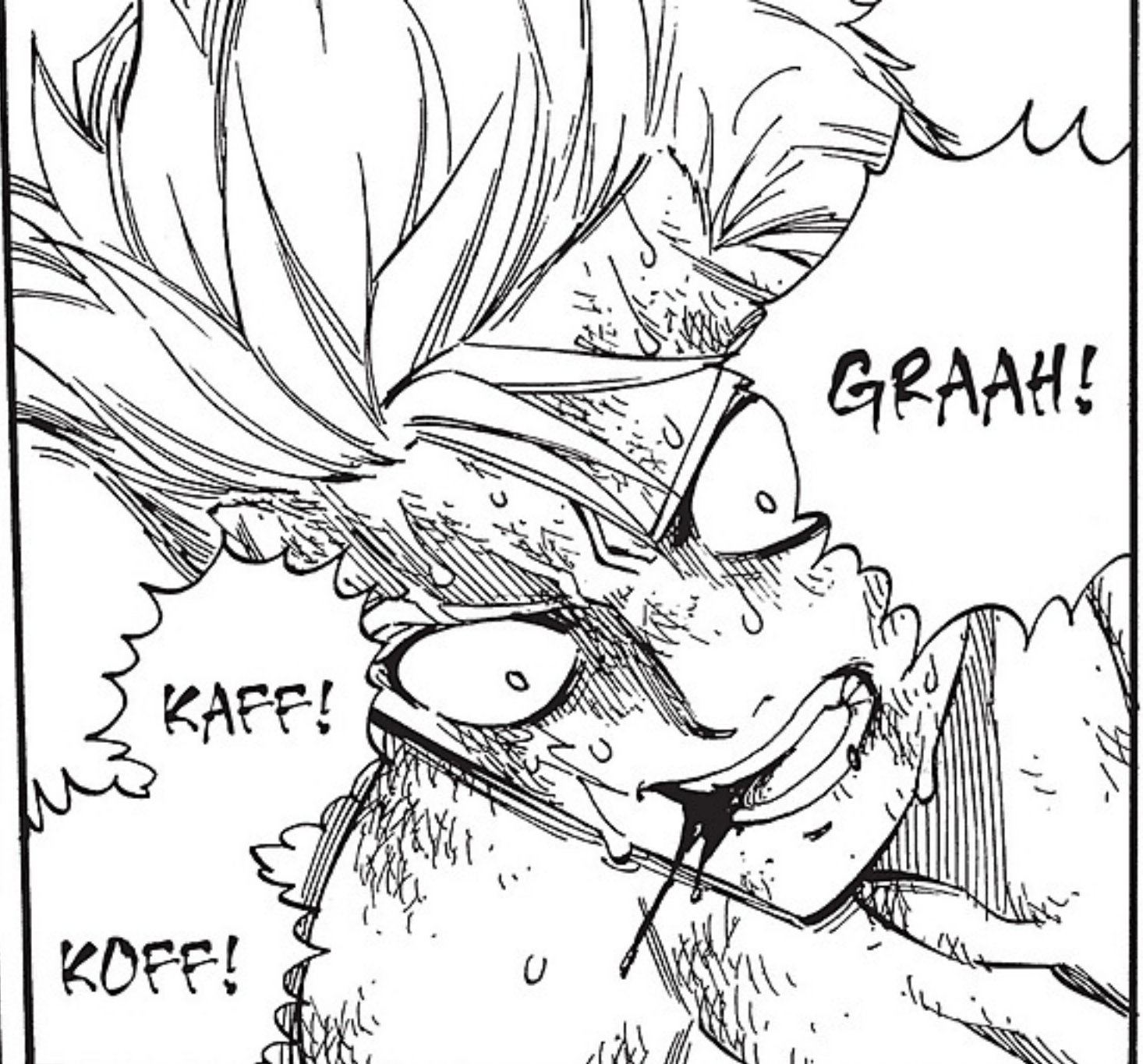
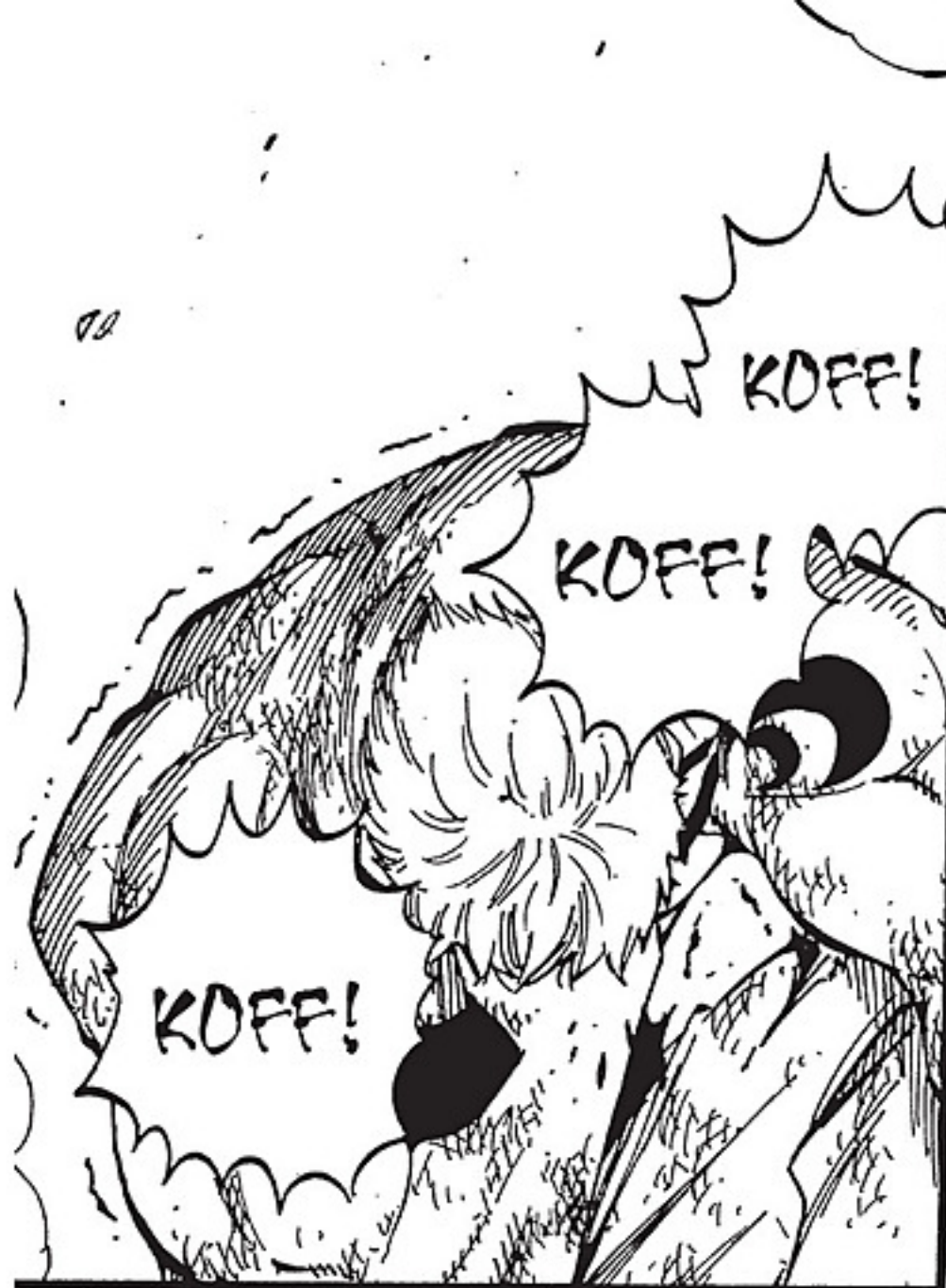
















Along  
with your  
body.



**WOOOHHH**

You  
should thank  
me! Your  
pain and  
suffering will  
be gone.

I will  
now end  
this.



Magic  
confinement  
fusion phase-  
boundary-  
breakthrough  
kill system:  
Online!

**WOOOHHH**

Charging  
with illegal  
ethernanos-  
dispersing  
ammunition!



Kh...

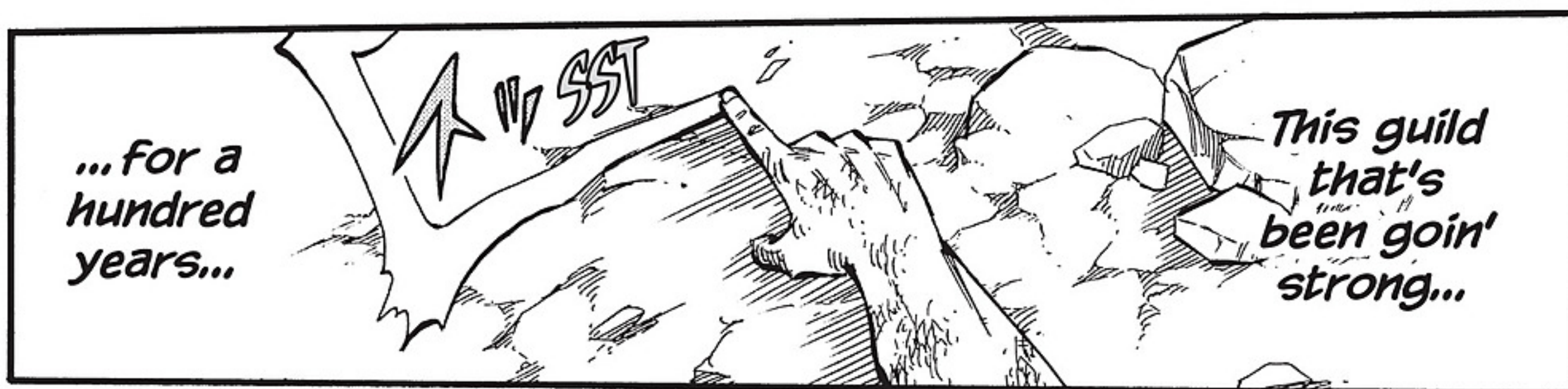
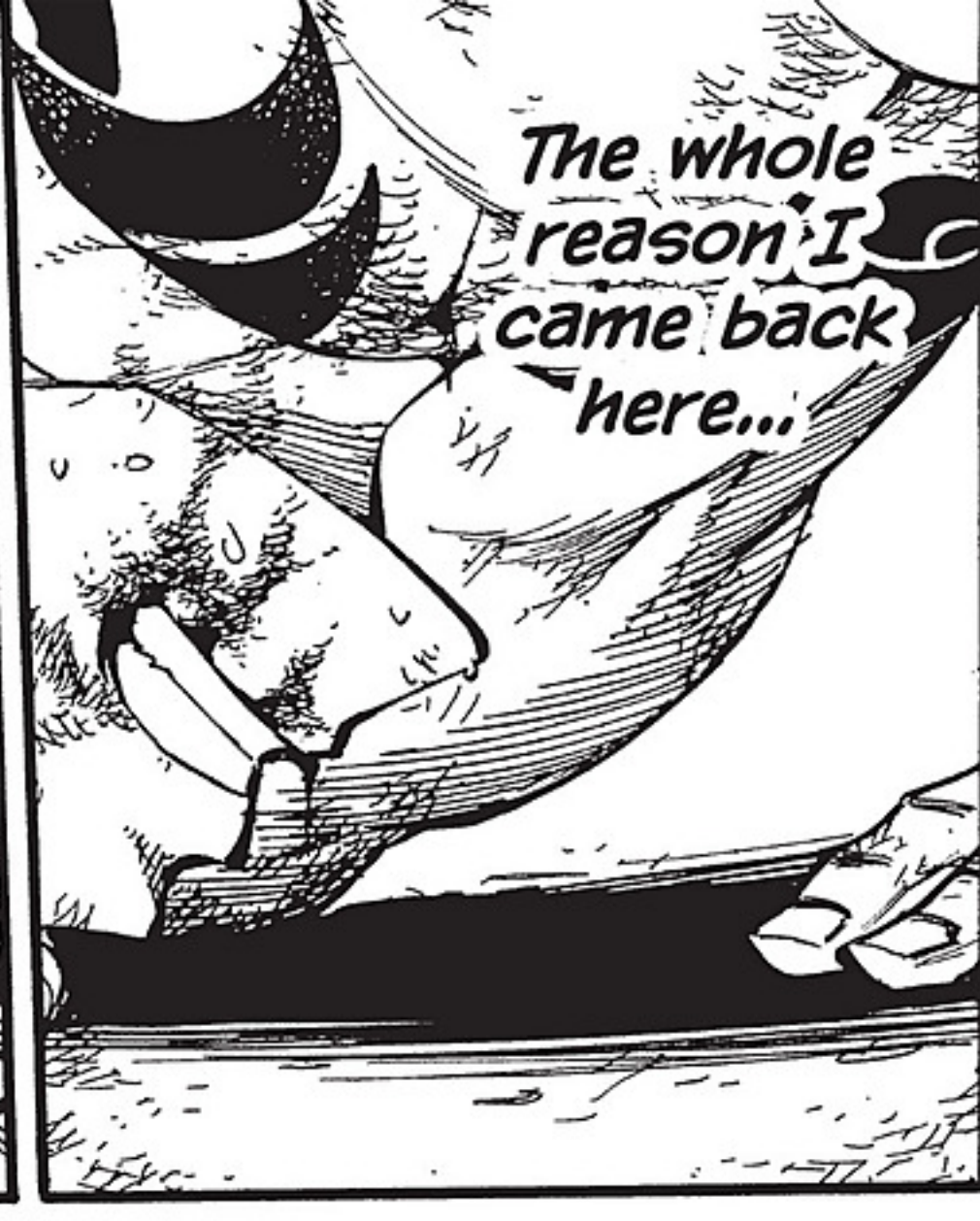
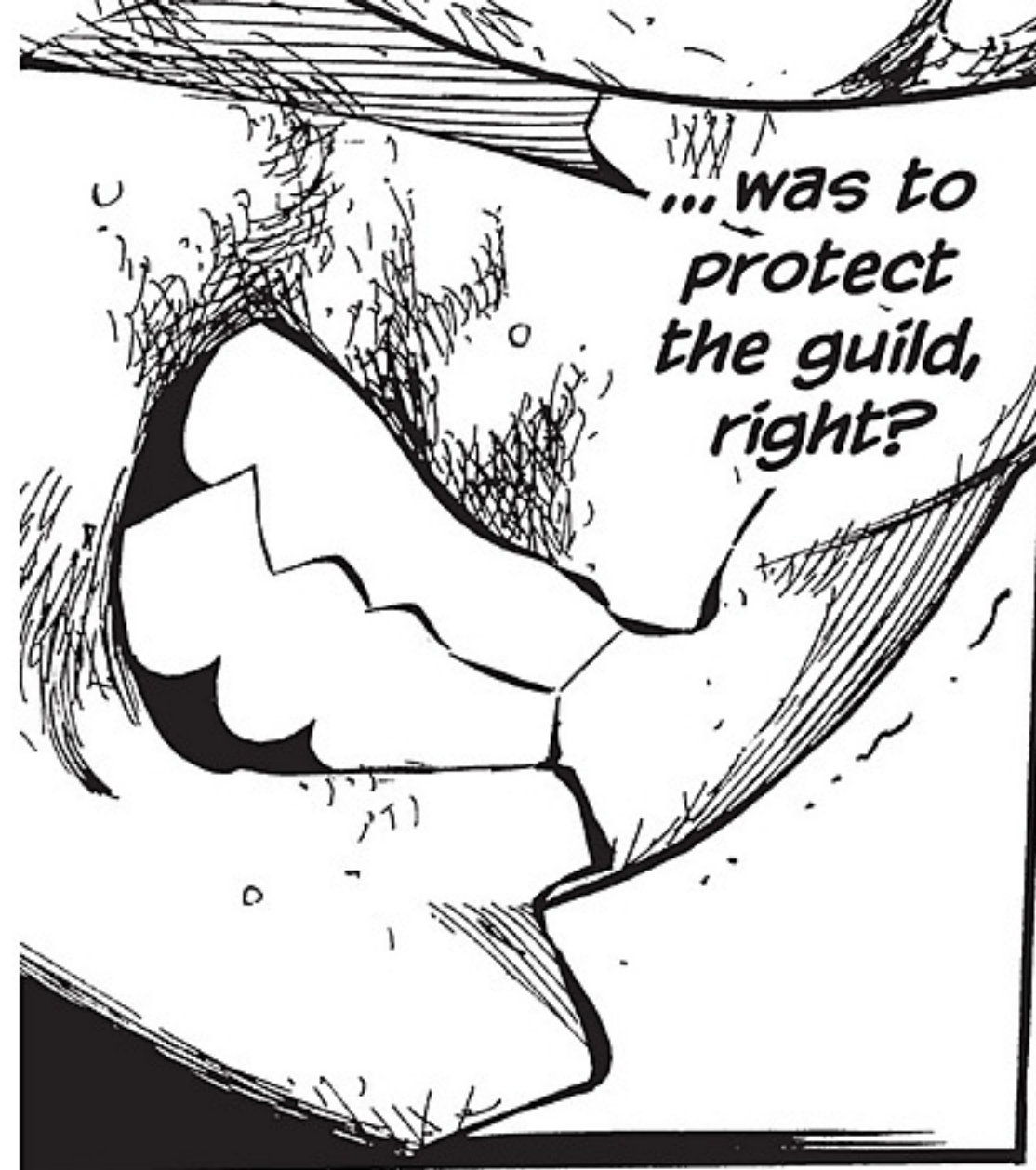


**Etherion:  
Activate!**

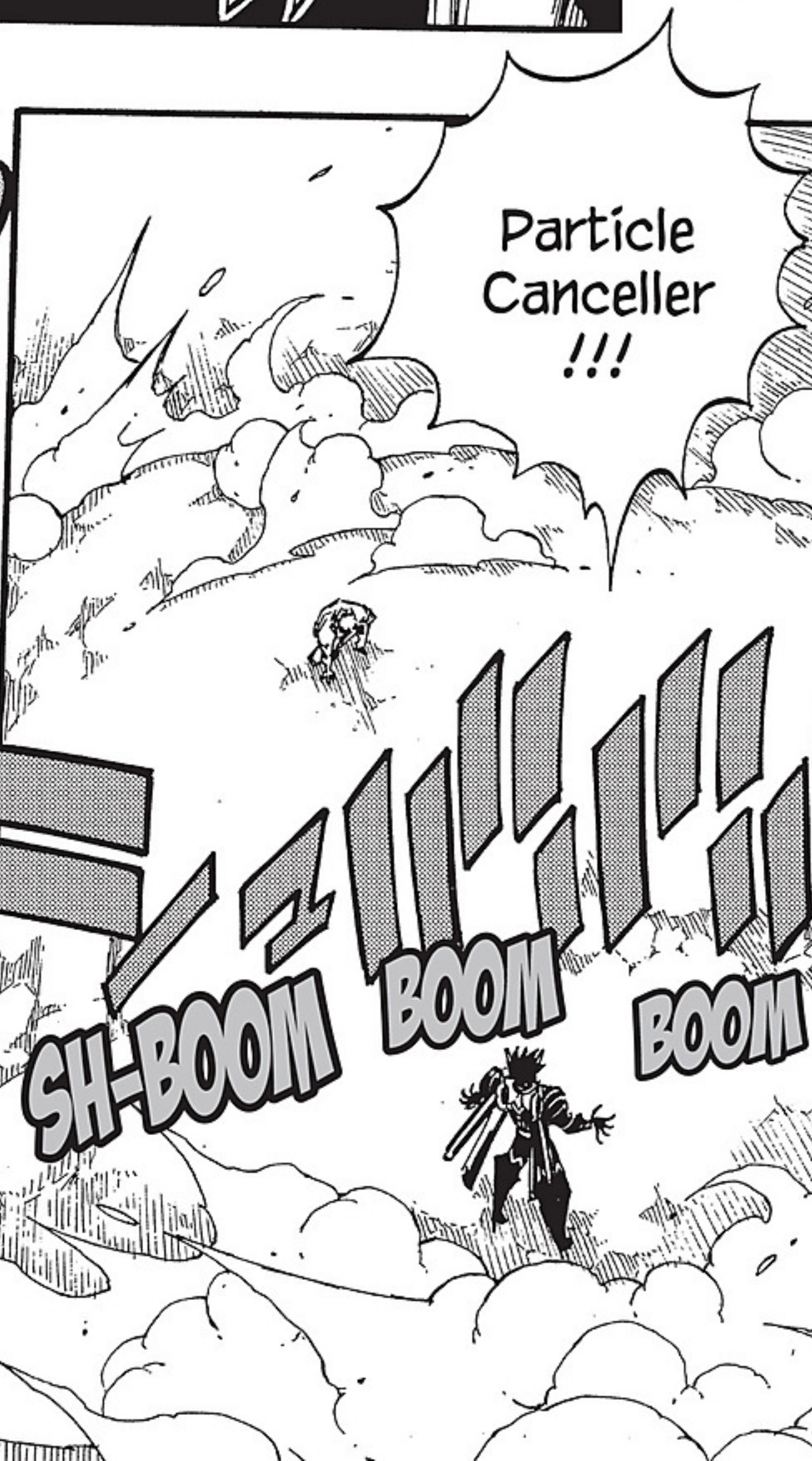
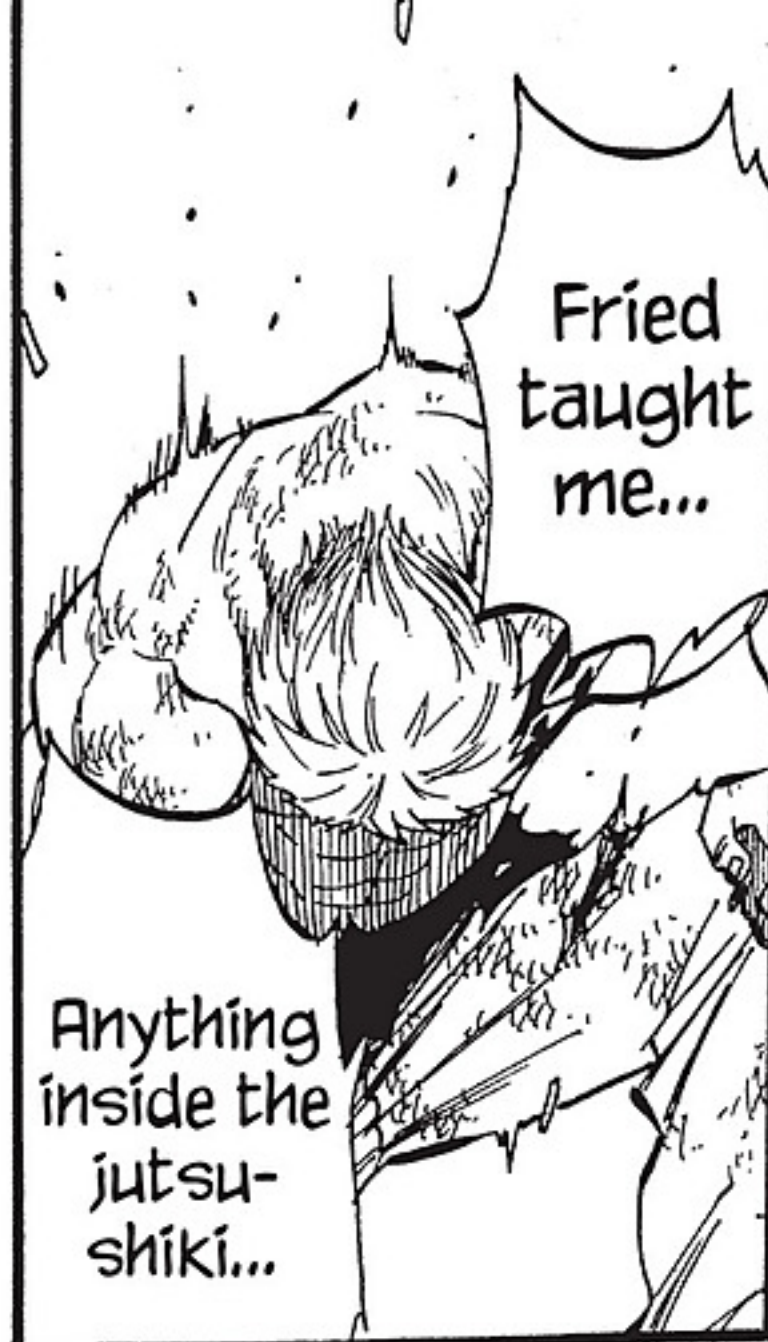


**Gotta  
move**













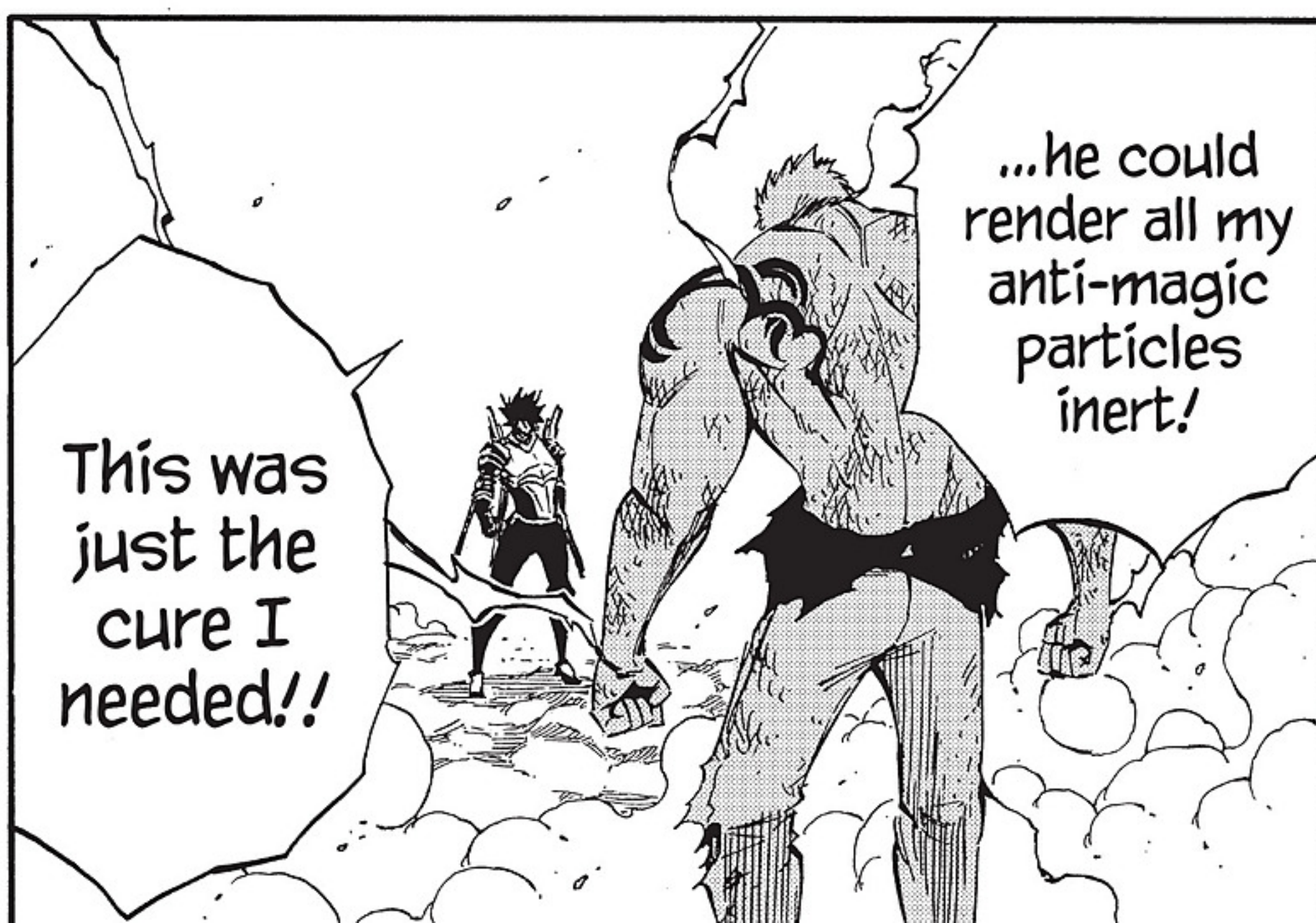
Fried,  
gotta  
thank  
ya...!

There ain't  
many wizards  
who can break  
your jutsu-  
shiki!

I knew  
if I found  
one...



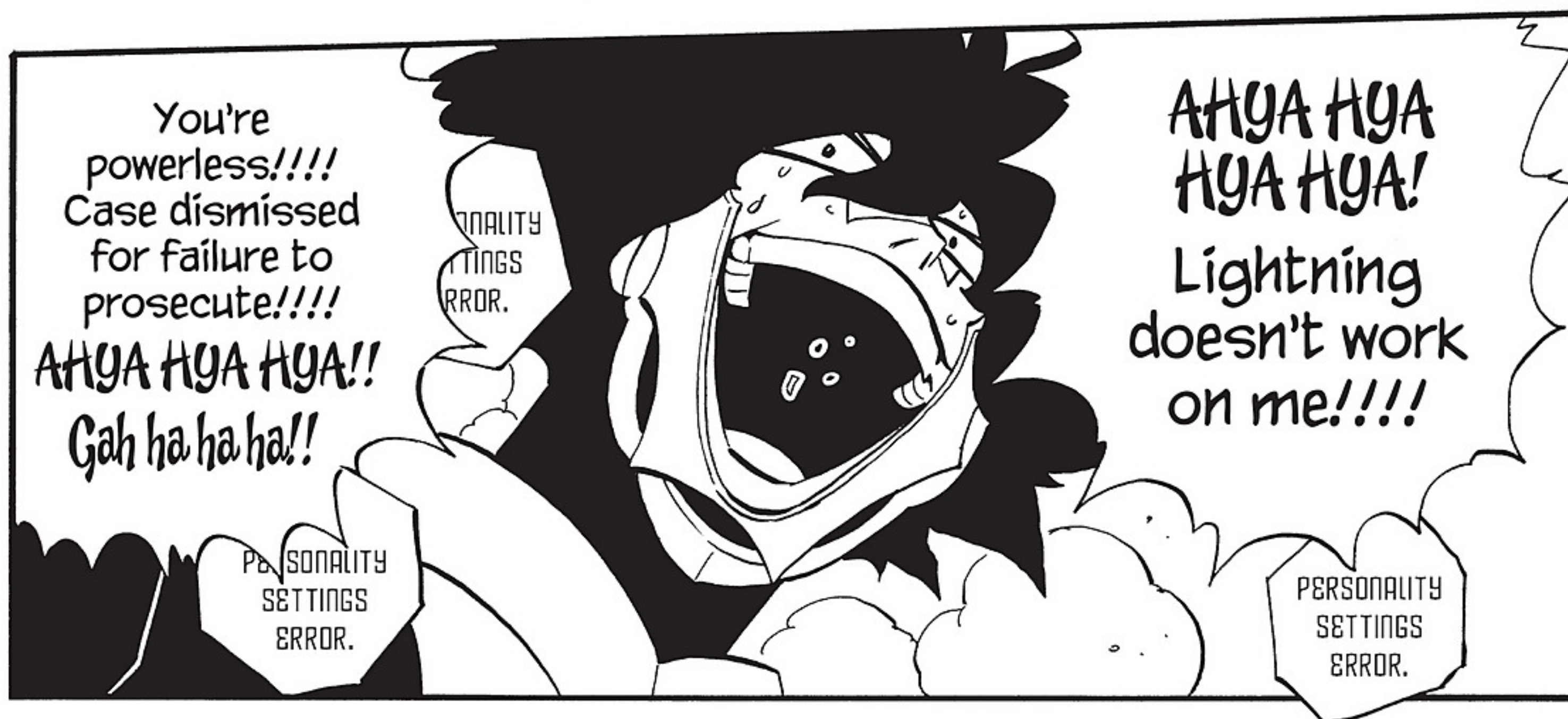
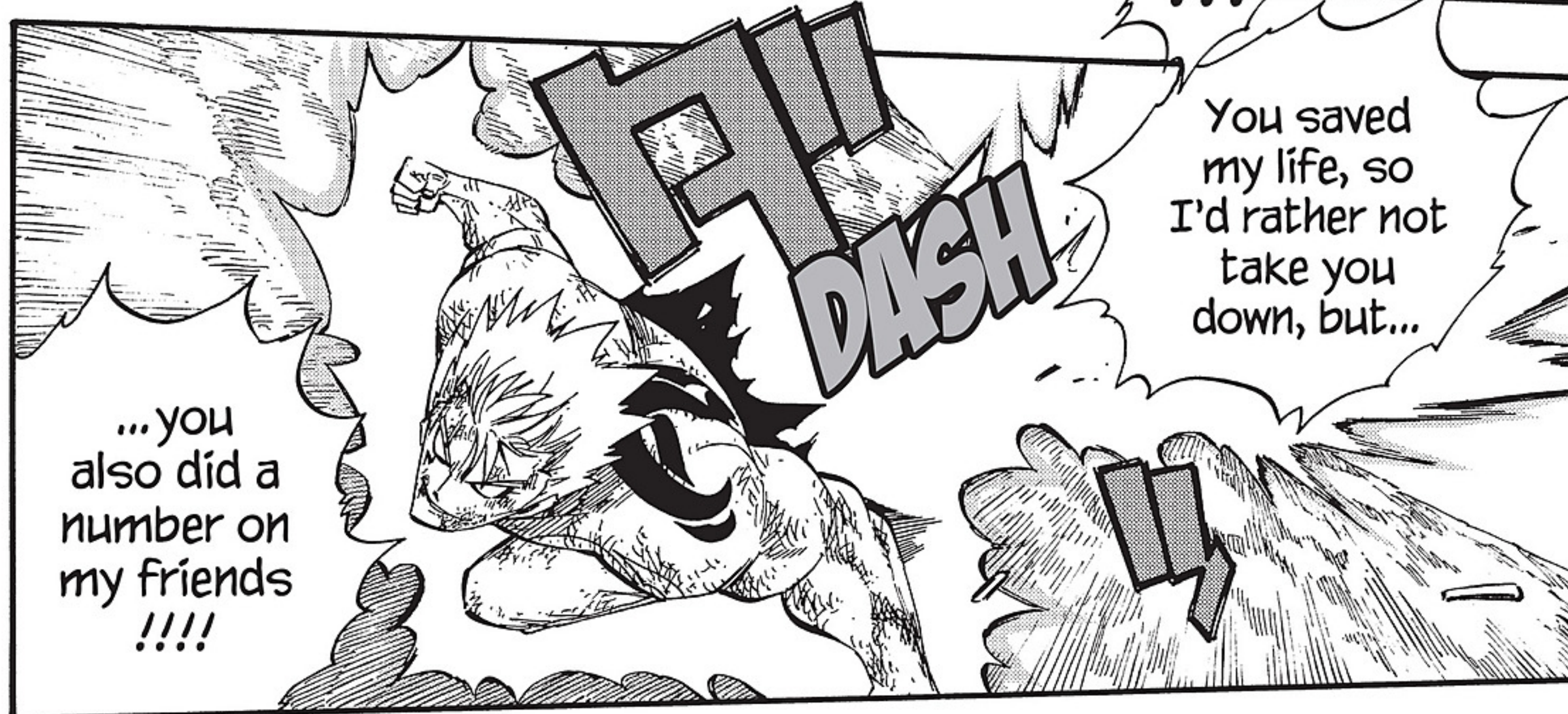
D-Dammit  
...!!!



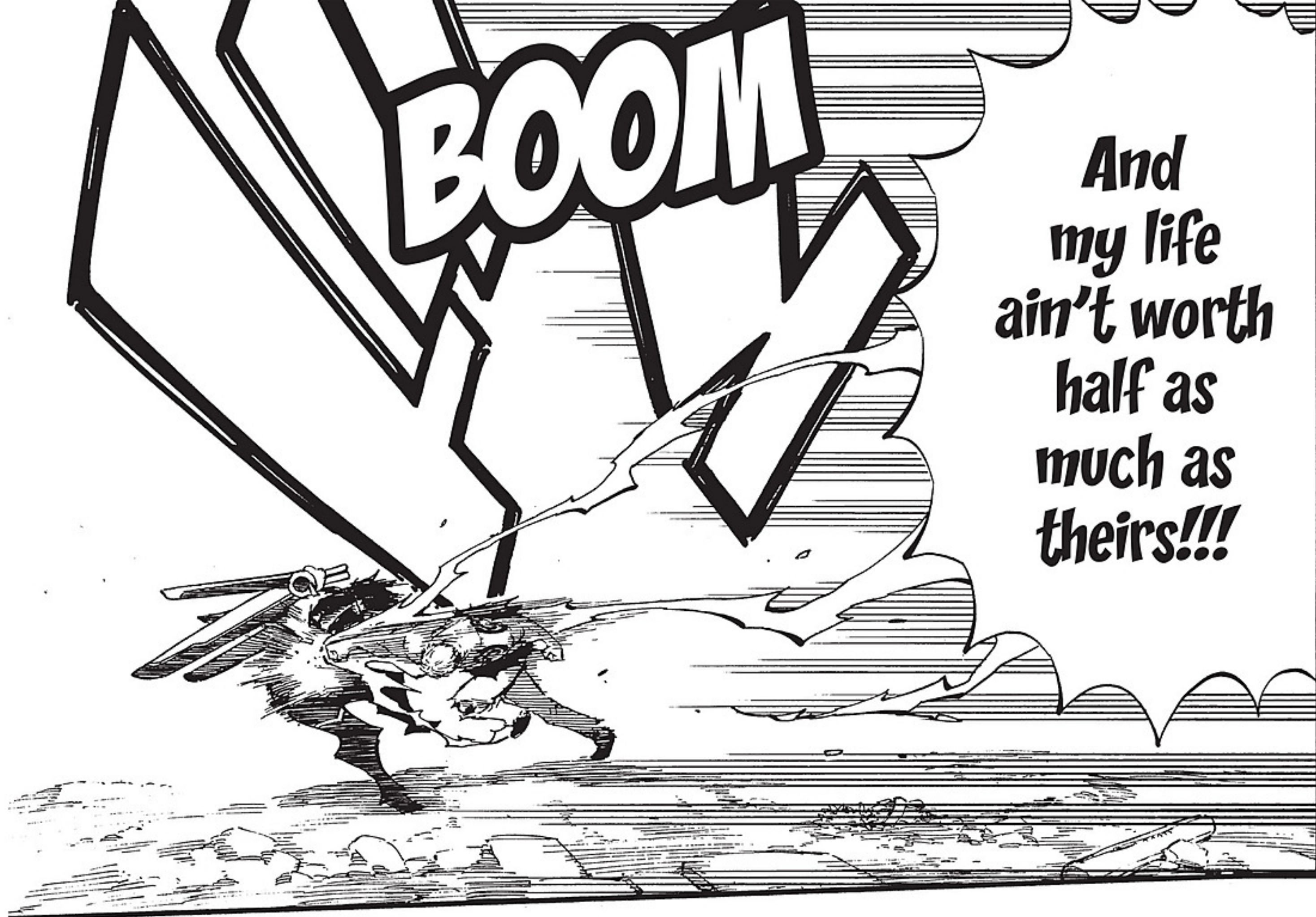
...he could  
render all my  
anti-magic  
particles  
inert!

This was  
just the  
cure I  
needed!!









**And  
my life  
ain't worth  
half as  
much as  
theirs!!!**



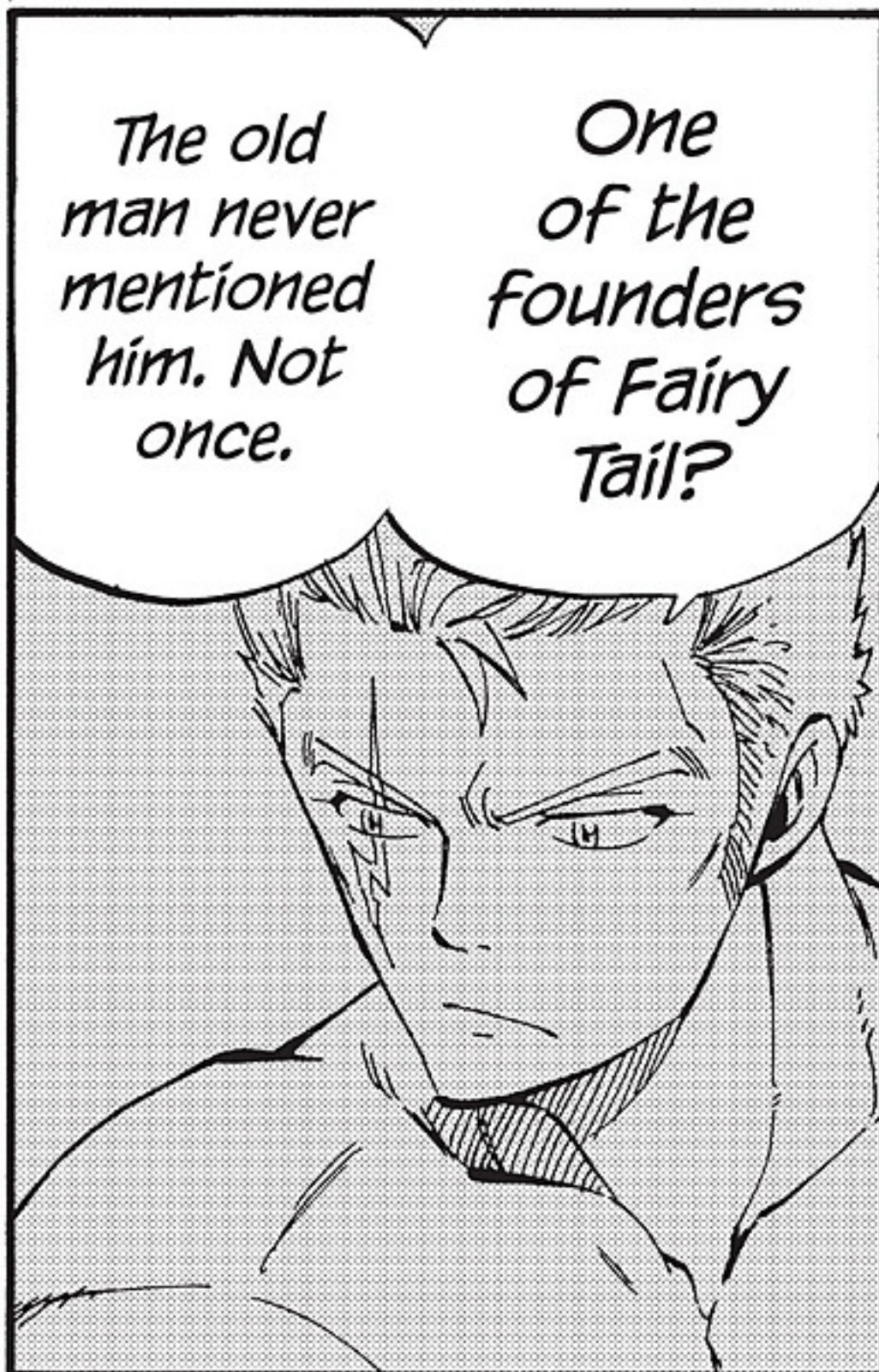
I told  
you, that  
won't...



What  
is this...  
?!!

This red-  
black  
lightning...  
I can't  
analyze  
it!!!!





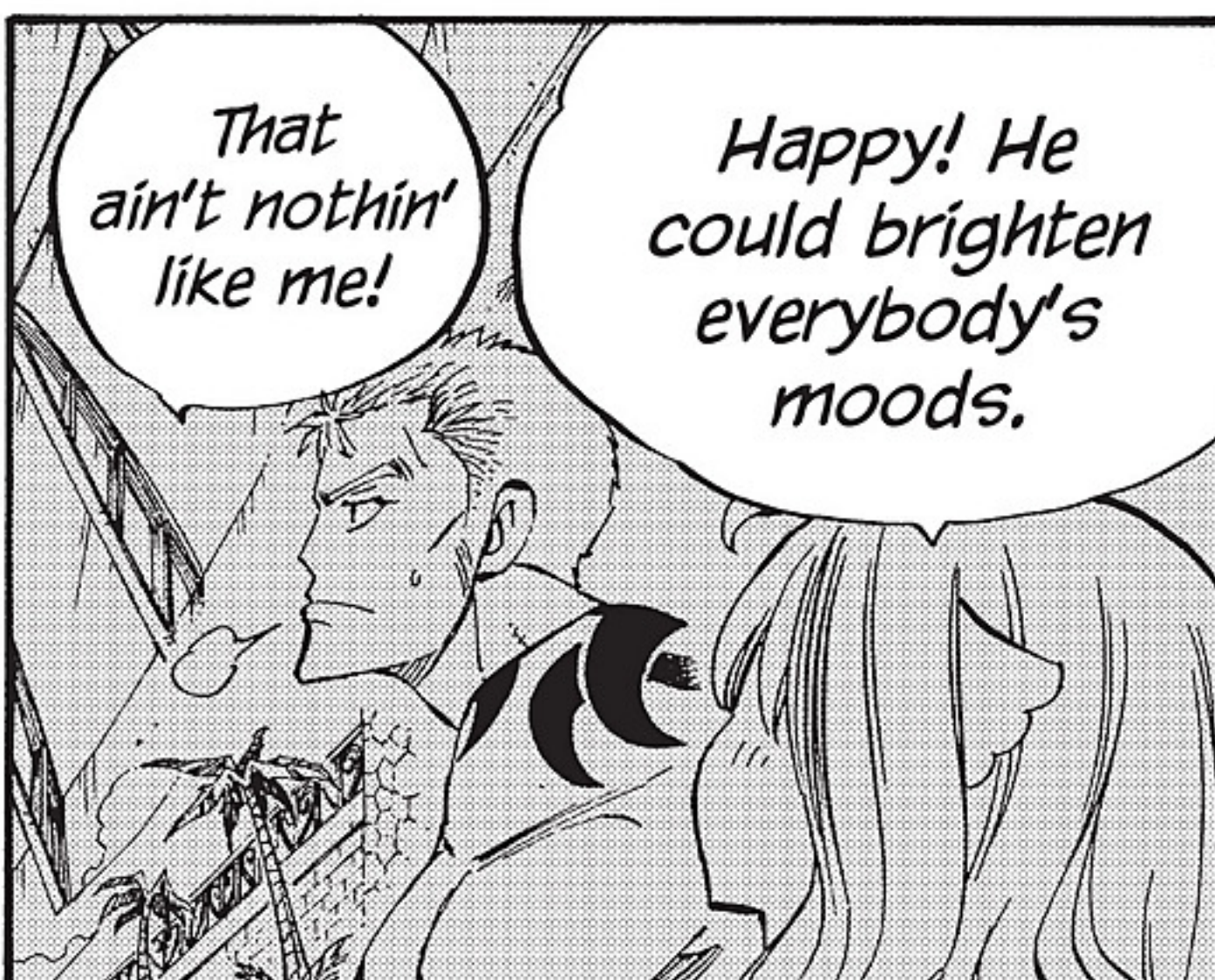
The old man never mentioned him. Not once.

One of the founders of Fairy Tail?



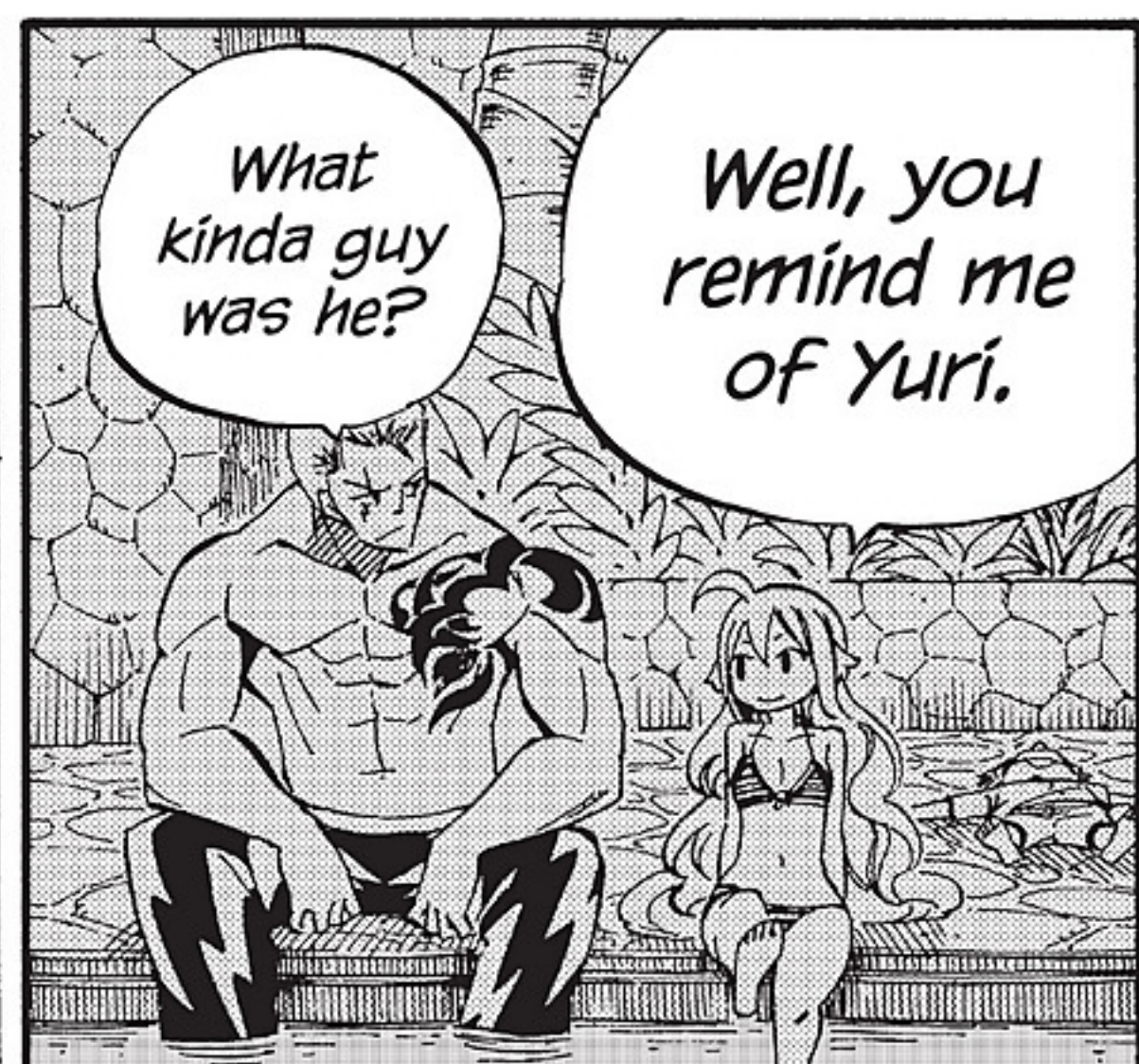
He's Makarov's father...

...which makes him your great grandfather.



That ain't nothin' like me!

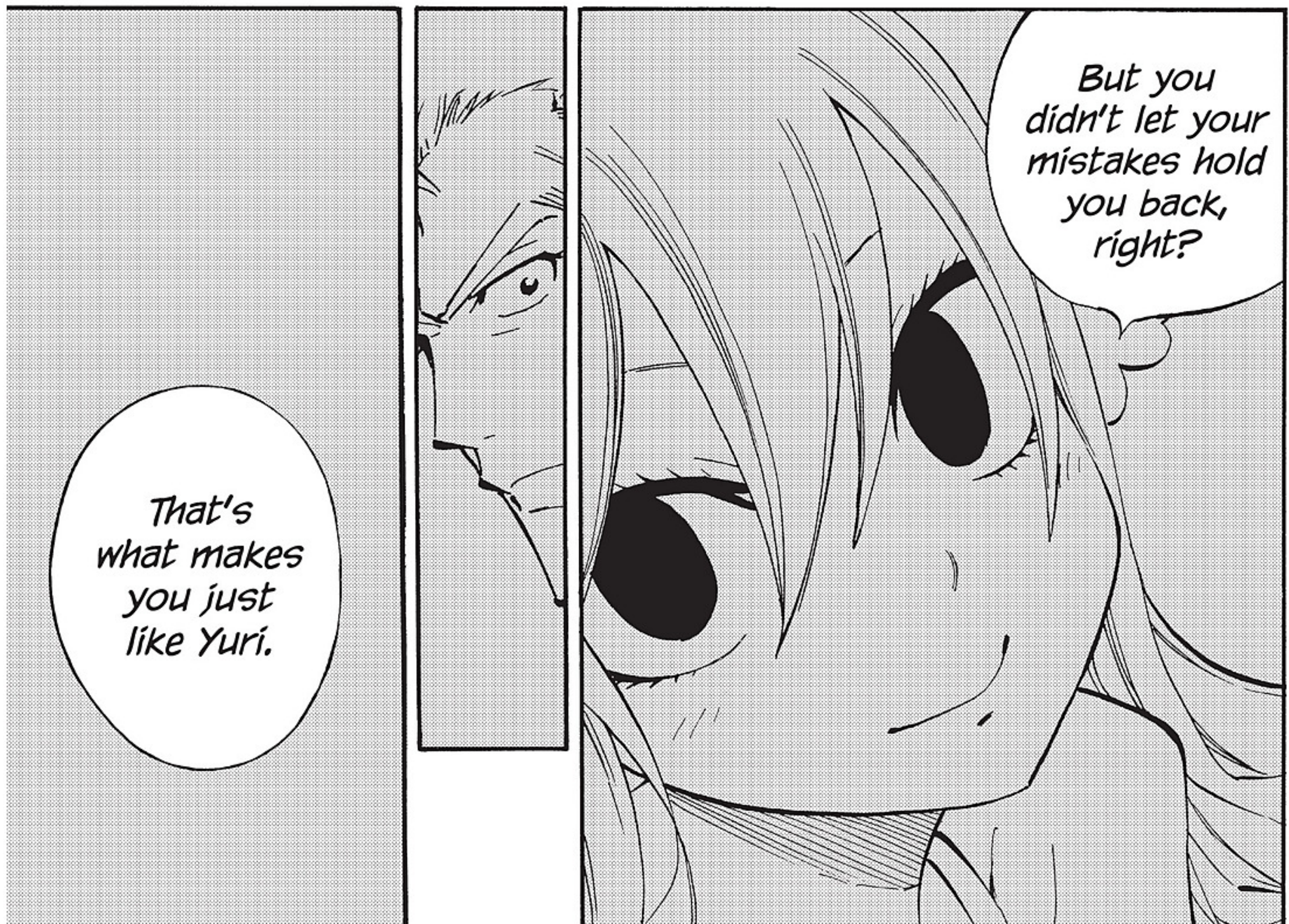
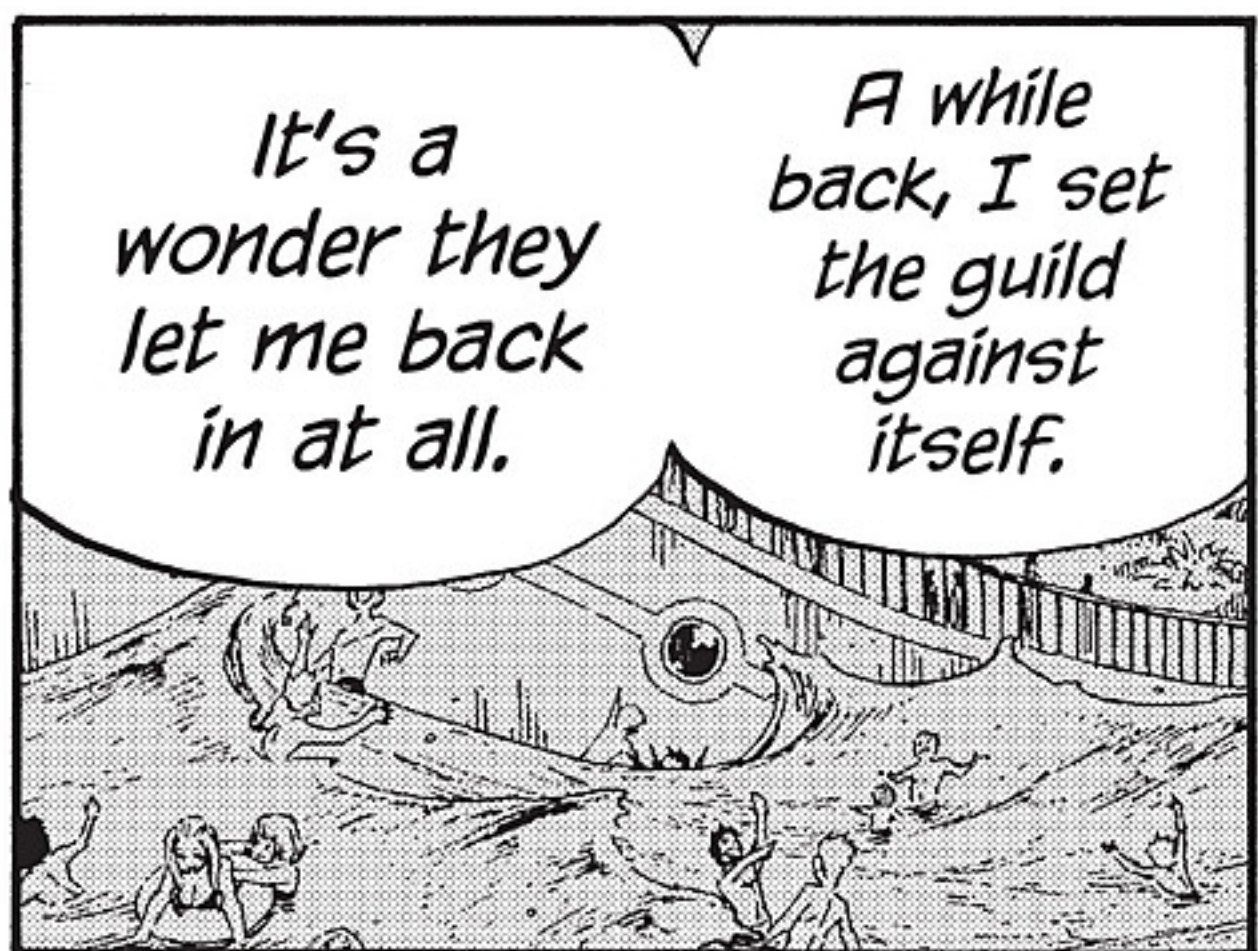
Happy! He could brighten everybody's moods.



What kinda guy was he?

Well, you remind me of Yuri.





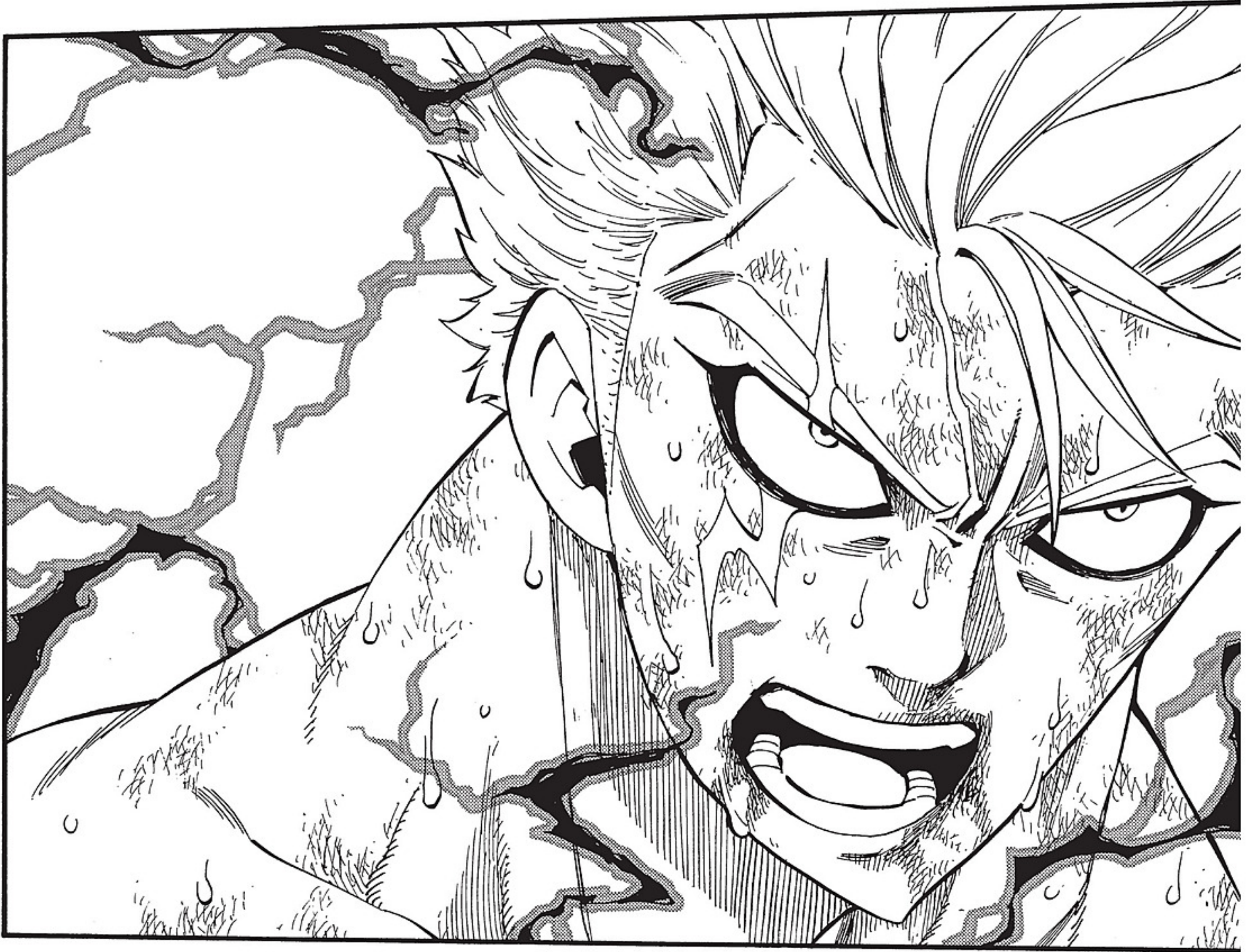
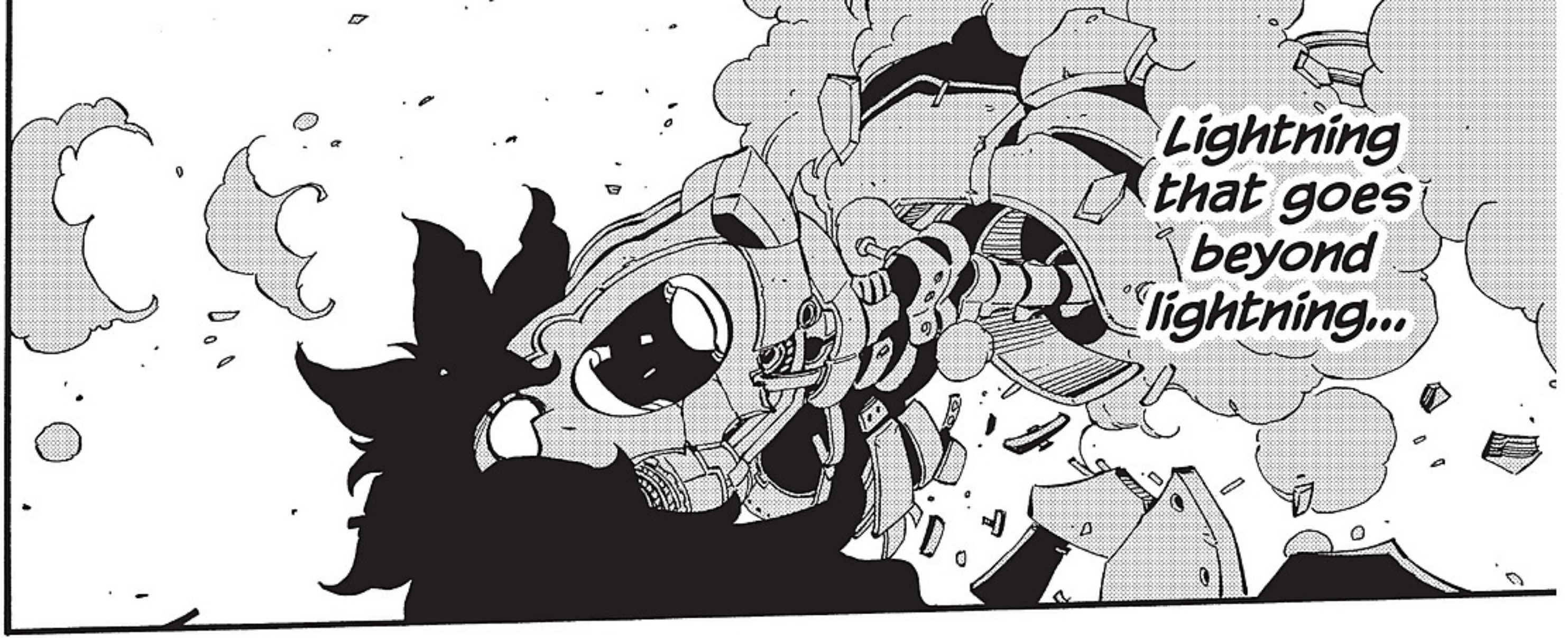




**RAIKÔ:  
RED  
LIGHTNING  
!!!!**

**GA-TTHWOOM**





*Red...  
the color  
of blood*

...

TO BE CONTINUED



# あとがき

## Afterword

When you spend a long time in this industry, it's surprising just how many things there are that I'd like to talk about but just can't. Obviously, I can't talk about what's to come in the story and other company secrets. But there's also upcoming release info, and details of the product, collaborations with others, and info on the anime. Aside from that, I also hear some gossip about other manga artists or editors, and that isn't something I'd pass on to others anyway.

Whenever I'm told not to say something, I never ever say it. But sometimes I think about it from the point of view of the people producing the work and wonder, "Maybe it'd be good timing to announce it soon..." or "I feel like it'd be okay to at least say that part, right?"

If you're wondering why I'm writing this, it's because I've got something I'm bursting to tell people about, but just can't! I know it isn't fair to only touch on it like this, but the final decision is that I can't. But man, do I want to talk about it!

Having this burning urge to say something can seem like it would be stressful, but you'd be surprised to know that that's not really the case. I do my best not to talk about something that has to stay secret, but as time goes on, I have a tendency to forget about the thing that's supposed to be secret! (Laughs) Then, when the item is about to go on sale or when the collaboration is announced, I'm often like, "Oh, yeah, **that!**" And with all things Fairy Tail, there are so many new items going on sale or new collaborations (and I'm really grateful to them all!) that I sometimes just can't keep them all in my head.

Recently, I've even begun to forget the release dates of my own graphic novels, and I end up remembering only because other authors tweet that they have their books coming out on the same day or because fans tweet that they bought the book. Actually, I want to talk about the new graphic novel as soon as I've drawn the cover, and say to everybody, "Here's the cover for the next volume!" But you can only publicly show the cover just before the release date and sometimes, by that point, I'm already coloring the cover for the next volume. So I end up forgetting about the previous one!



FROM HIRO MASHIMA



In Japan, this volume, Vol. 55, has both a normal version and a special OAD (original animation DVD) version selling at the same time.

It's been a long time since the last OAD, and we really put a lot of love and effort into it. I hope those who bought the special edition enjoy the anime!

The image above has absolutely nothing to do with the main story, but lately I've just been overwhelmed with how cute Brandish is, so I couldn't help myself! I hope I can get her into the main story even more!



# Translation Notes:

Japanese is a difficult language and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

## Page 35, Bloodman

In previous volumes, Bloodman was mistranslated as Bradman. We apologize for any confusion.

## Page 45, Tenjin no Boreas

Boreas is the name of the Greek God of the North Wind.

## Page 165, Magic Confinement fusion

Magic confinement fusion is a play on the concept of magnetic confinement fusion, a process in which fusion reactions for nuclear fusion-based power generation happen within a magnetic field. For nuclear fusion to happen, it needs to be confined and heated until it becomes plasma. The plasma can be held within a magnetic field as the fusion takes place. In this case, it is magic holding the plasma, or to put it in much simpler terms, Wall is about to generate a whole lot of power.

## Page 184, Ryuzetsu Land

There is a plant related to the American "century plant" called "Ryûzetsuran" in Japanese. It's a desert plant that lives for quite a long time (although not a century, as its English name implies)—it can live up to some thirty years. Using Japanese pronunciation, "ran" and "land" sound almost identical, so the name of this water park or spa is a play on the name of the plant.

## Page 186, Raikô

*Raikô* is the Japanese word for the compound called mercury fulminate, an explosive that is used these days as a means to trigger other explosives. In the past, it was used to replace flint in muzzle-loading firearms, and later, when they started making ammunition that contained its own gunpowder, mercury fulminate was one of the primers they used to fire the bullets (which was later replaced with more efficient compounds).



# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

55

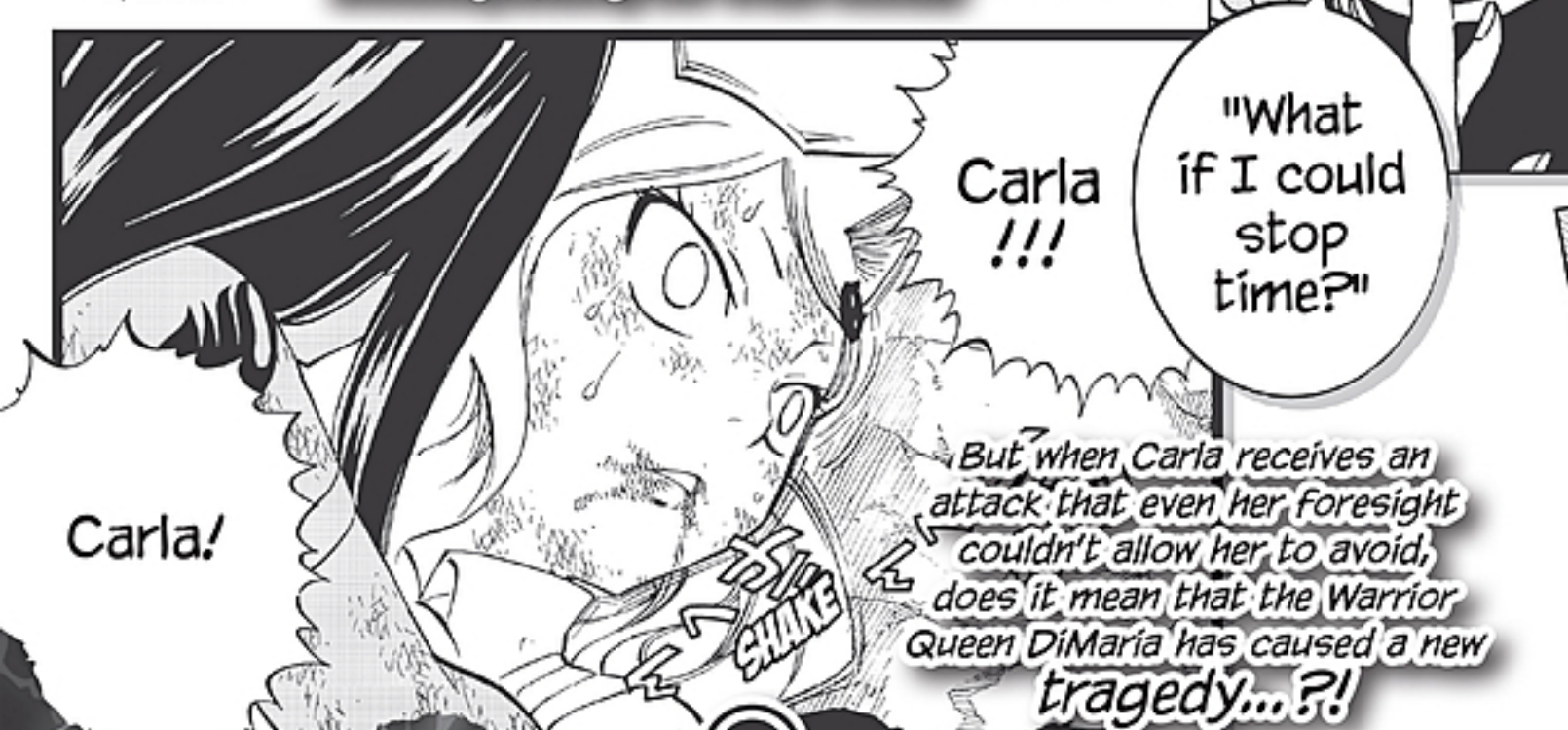


HIRO 真島ヒロ KASHIMA



Tsk, tsk.



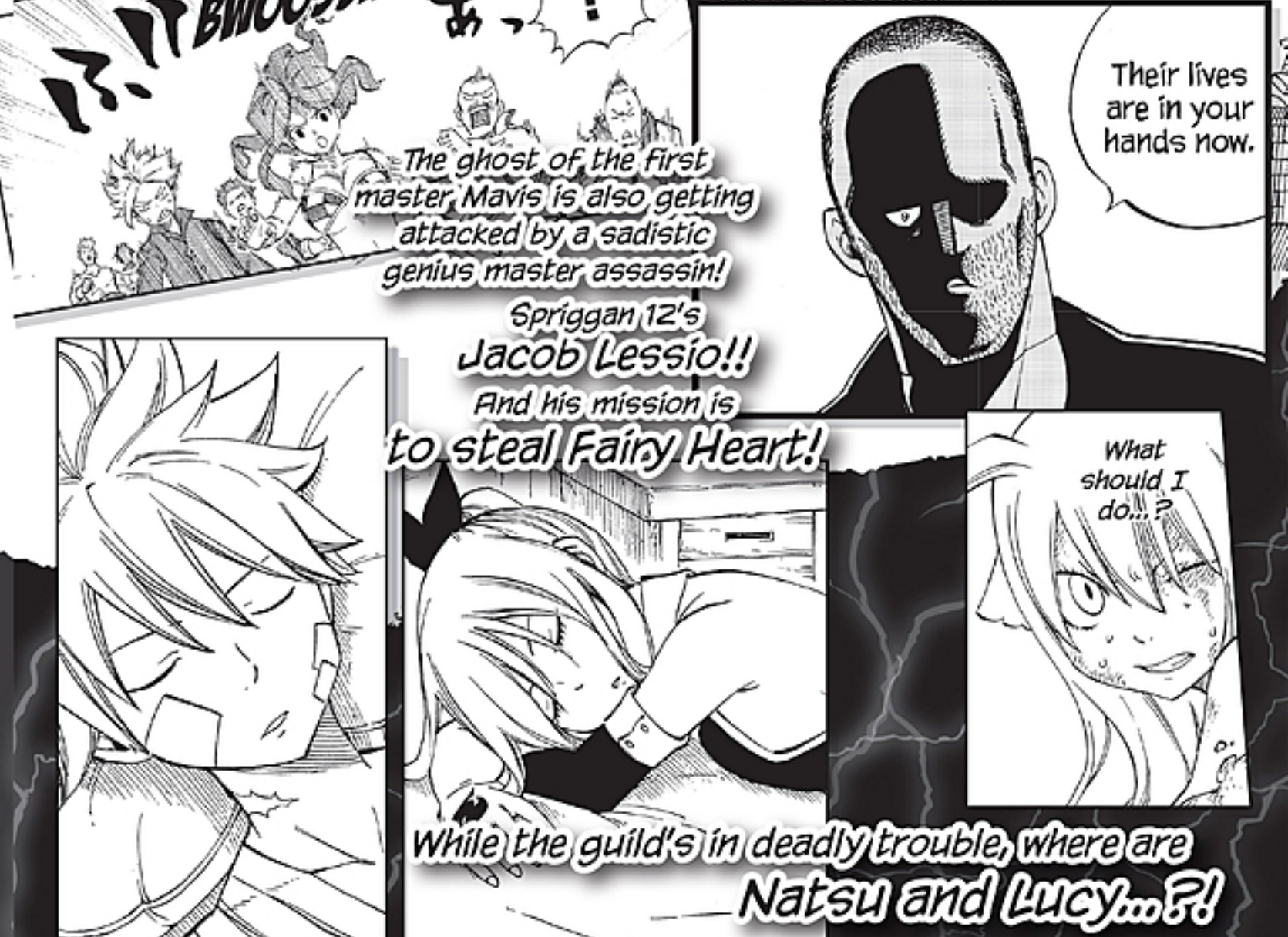


**FAIRY TAIL**

**フェアリーテイル**

**56**

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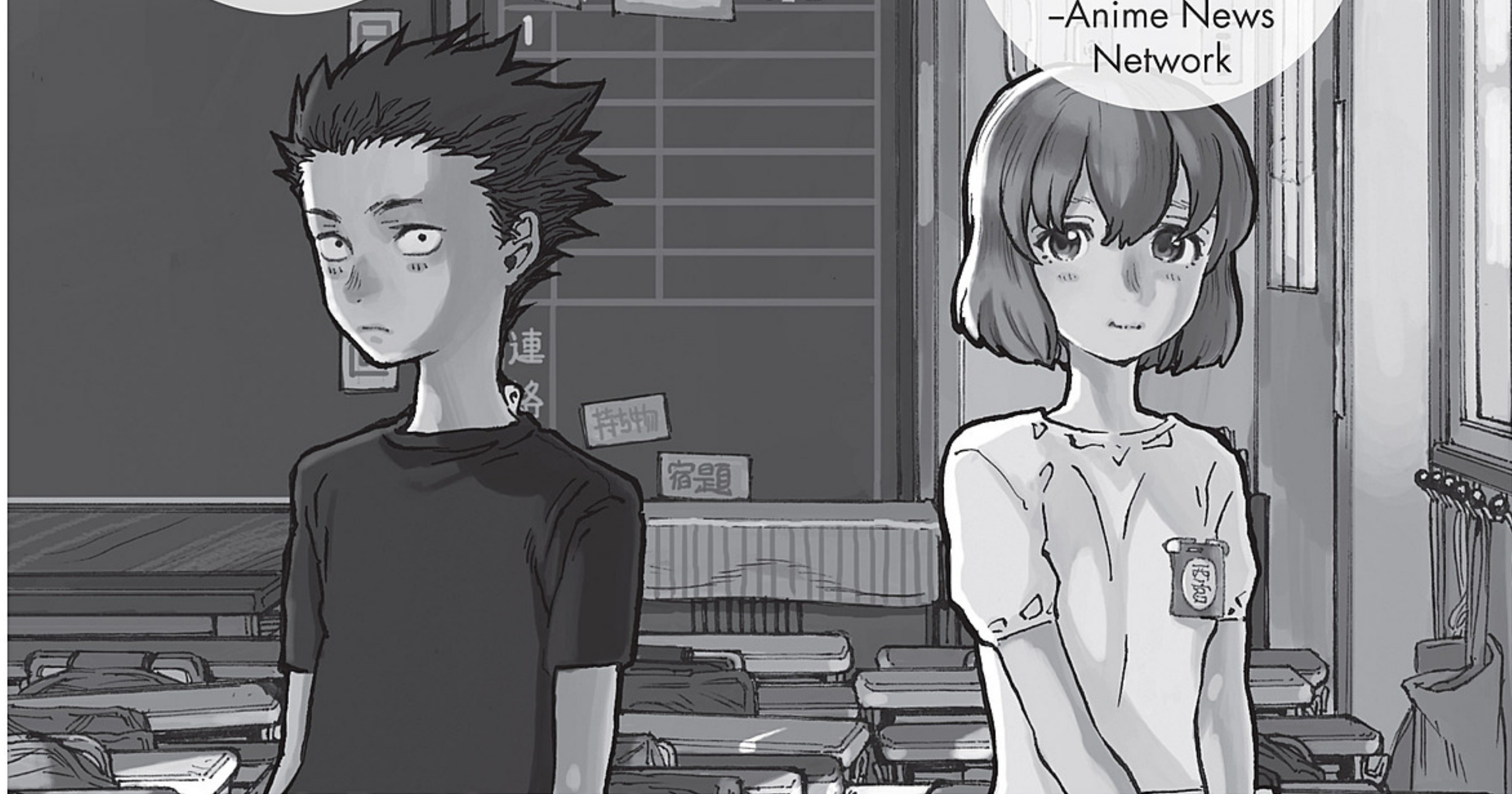
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